

UFO AFRINEWS



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UFO AFRINEWS

N° 10

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EDITORIAL

Who is right and who is wrong?

There are several different types of UFO investigators, as my friend (dare I be so bold?) Albert Budden keeps reminding me.

There are those like himself - strictly scientific - who have been well trained in their subjects - who deny anything that doesn't fit into a scientific mold. And how right they are, for too many 'beyond the fringe' ufologists play the game of accepting everything the witnesses say.

If it were not for the dedicated scientists and the respected skeptics (yes, it's true that I respect Phil Klass although I don't always agree with his analyses), we would have wild scenes of panic all over the globe - especially in places like Africa - and no-one would know what to believe. So perhaps, in all honesty, we should err on the side of disbelief rather than on the side of believing too easily.

However, having said all that, where does one draw the line? I know Hilary Evans (one of the most analytical of UFO investigators) finds it difficult to go along with the overwhelming numbers who claim to have been abducted. I attended Dr Leo Sprinkle's Conference at the University of Wyoming, in Laramie, USA, last year, and although I was stirred by the traumatic and moving stories of many of the abductees, I could not help questioning if they were a reality or partially dredged from the subconscious of the victim's mind. *This does not mean to say that people are lying*, but it is a known fact that in regressive hypnosis the actual event can be coloured by other happenings hidden deeply in the mind -- happenings which do not necessarily relate to one event.

For years now, ufologists have been looking for proof that abductions, whether from unemotional grey-skinned aliens or more attractive humanoids, are a reality!

One recalls, as far back as Antonio Villas Boas (October 1957, in Brasil) that Antonio said, as he was leaving the craft he noticed a square box on the table in one of the rooms. The box had a glass lid with a clock-like face underneath, with a hand and a black mark where the 3, 6 and 9 would normally go. Where the 12 should have been, there were several markings side by side. Antonio thought that if he brought the box back with him, it would be proof of his abduction onto the craft. At no time did he see the hand moving but he did notice that one of the men looked at the 'clock' every now and then.

When the entities were elsewhere engaged, Antonio moved closer and took the box, trying to hide it. Immediately, one of the men pushed Antonio roughly aside and grabbed the box back.

In a more recent event Dr Leo Sprinkle was given the bent bullet which Carl Higdon had fired at some elk when out hunting. It was put into a box and sealed with tape; but when Dr Sprinkle opened the box a few days later on, to show a ballistics expert, he was astonished to find that the bullet had disappeared. Recently (July 19, 1988) two women were abducted from a Johannesburg street in an up-market suburb. They were given a small piece of paper with some figures on it, by the Commander of the craft. The one abductee, thinking this was a telephone number (she had no other recall at the time), placed the piece of paper in a telephone drawer.

When she and her husband moved house, she retrieved the piece of paper and placed it elsewhere, so it did not immediately disappear. Subsequent to that, she has been unable to find it although she has gone through all her papers.

Imagination, or what? Hardly applicable to Dr Sprinkle, as there were several witnesses to the reality of the bent bullet and to his sealing it in the box.

So what am I trying to say? That it all happened? Not at all, because I too need proof of the existence of beings from places or Dimensions other than those we know!

On the other hand, reliable people have seen artifacts which they cannot normally explain. Do we dismiss their testimony airily, merely because they do not have a degree?

Is there some secret rite, some mysterious trigger which MIGHT provide the proof of the reality of all these abduction and contactee scenarios? Or is it indeed an unwitting display of how mischievous and convincing our subconscious really is? I must admit that if I had not investigated certain cases myself, I too would find it all extremely difficult to believe. How can the distances - greater almost than our minds can envisage - be traversed with such speed; how can they be reached at all?

And where are the bodies that the USA government is supposed to have on ice over all these years? (Certainly since the alleged crash at Roswell in July, 1947?) Despite my admiration and respect for Leonard Stringfield and his updating in numerous papers on 'crashed retrievals' (of both craft and bodies), most of his sources are never revealed -- admittedly due to the sensitivity of their job/positions or other equally legitimate reasons.

But whatever criticism I might level at various researchers, I have been on cases of my own where the evidence is indisputable, although unprovable. Nevertheless, far greater minds than mine have been unable to offer alternative solutions. So in fact, it is not a question of wanting to believe something is going on which we don't understand; it is more a question of being compelled to do so where the evidence is there!

In the case of Danie van Graan (31st July, 1975) of Loxton, South Africa, I was on site within a short time of the event taking place. The marks left by the craft had been covered with a tarpaulin and were still clear; the residue of fine greenish granules were still there (a high content of thaumasite, according to geological analysis). In the centre where the craft stood, the lucerne (alfalfa) had died away, leaving an approximately two metre diameter circle where nothing grew for some years. The soil analysis suggested that a high alkali content would be a deleterious factor for the establishment of vegetation. In the Groendal Reserve case (October 1, 1978 in South Africa), four boys had observed a silver object and the subsequent appearance of three men in silver suits, who appeared to glide over the surface of the land, 8 ft high *fynbos* and small trees.

Of course, they could be hoaxing, but then Professor Rust of the Geology Department of the University of Port Elizabeth allowed me to send two of his lecturers, Russell Shone and a colleague, into the thick bush of the Reserve. Police Sergeant Chris Powell and several other men accompanied them. Shone reported that there were nine impressions arranged symmetrically. He estimated that the object was six metres high, to be seen by the boys. He also did not think that in such dense bush and at that distance from where the boys were, anyone could have reached there to flatten the brush the way it was done.

I could go on and on and on. The conclusion is that there are still the skeptics and non-believers; there are still those who go overboard at every case, some so bizarre that even the most way-out ufologist would be wary. And then there are the middle of the road persons who do not insist on believing, but have difficulty in discarding some of the evidence which comes their way.

I have seen this type of evidence and examined it carefully and until proven otherwise, to me it was totally acceptable. And it is this kind of proof which is going on, whatever the skeptics say!

WHO IS RIGHT AND WHO IS WRONG?

Have we been wrong, all along?
Are aliens just images born in our mind;
a figment of dreams of a different kind?
The positive proof of our being blind
to what's going on, all along?

Have we been conned, all the time?
That spaceships are plasma, not metal at all,
and circular lights are merely a ball
of strange fires bouncing, rounded and tall,
mistaken by us? Down the line?

Are we bemused, every year?
Into thinking they're visitors from far Outer Space,
speaking with guile and moving with grace,
when they're actually humans of different face?
We're easy to fool, that we are!

CROP CIRCLES IN BOTSWANA?

We have not commented on crop circles in the past for the simple reason that no-one really seemed to know what they are and as such, we cannot see how they could be allied to UFOs until a theory was proven.

For those who are not familiar with the Crop Circle Syndrome, let us state briefly that these came into being - or so it is thought - fairly recently, when it was brought to the public's attention. The crop circles appeared overnight or when no-one was close enough to see them being formed. Initially they were merely circles where the corn, wheat, rape, etc. appeared to have had parts of the crop bent into a perfect circle, the sheaves forming either clockwise or anti-clockwise. Sometimes it was merely the edge of the circle, to a depth of several centimetres, which was depressed.

As time went on and thousands of circles were being formed, the shapes appeared to vary, and several glyphs were added, branching out to the edge of the circle.

Dr Terence Meaden, a meteorologist in Britain, was almost certain that the crop circles were formed by wind vortices pressing down from above, and many people accepted this as the more scientific solution. Others suggested that the patterns were messages from stars and planets far beyond our Earth, begging us to take care of the ecology and to mend our ways.

In fact, one of the circles with glyphs was recognised by the Hopi Indians of New Mexico, USA, who stated that it represented Mother Earth in distress. There were other solutions, such as harmful growth affecting the crop, or underground weaknesses.

In 1992, the BBC revealed that two men, in their early sixties, had confessed to having hoaxed the circles and even demonstrated to some leading newspapers how this was done. Everyone sighed with relief: at last the mystery was solved and no-one would have to have sleepless nights any more as to what could be causing these marks in the crops.

Shortly after this revelation, which nearly everyone accepted, Colin Andrews, one of the main investigators into the crop circles, pointed out that in that year, over 1000 circles had been formed. The two hoaxers said they had made approximately 30 circles, so they could not possibly have covered them all.

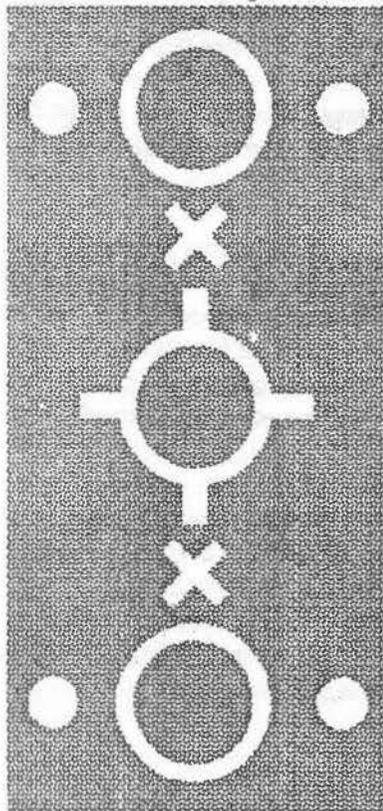
Back to the mystery, with one large difference: most people had heard the first broadcast on the BBC and never read about the follow-up story.

We had received enquiries from several sources in the USA and Great Britain, television companies and investigators. Had anything of this nature ever occurred in Africa? As far as we knew, it had NOT, although one farmer of our acquaintance did say that he remembered seeing these circles on his land, but could not recall the date nor the type of circles formed, so we never reported back.

And then came a letter from Martin Chibanda, of Kwe-Kwe, in Zimbabwe. He had not personally seen the circles, but had met a farmer in Botswana who told him a most interesting story. We are grateful to Martin for this report and he is now trying to get hold of the farmer so that we can obtain more information from him. But in the meantime, here is Martin's story:

'When I was on holiday in Botswana, a farmer I met there mentioned to me that he had lost a large amount of his maize crop when something apparently burned his field. The strange thing was that it was burnt in a specific shape denoting letter-like structures carved into his crop. This he drew on paper and I have drawn this for you to see.

'The dotted area is the unharmed portion of the crop. The shape is composed of perfectly symmetrical circular and X-shaped structures and four 'pot-holes'.



'According to the man, the 'pot-holes' looked as if something had dug into the soil while the rest was burnt. The farmer also mentioned that the surrounding stalks were lying flat away from the central shapes and that it was near harvest time when the maize was dry.

'Unfortunately, at the time I did not ask about the size of the burnt area and the date it happened, but I will try and get these details for you if I can. I found it all very strange as I had never heard of anything like this before; but I must tell you that the man was more worried about the loss of his crop than about the formation...'

UNIDENTIFIED LIGHTS IN THE SKY

Unknown

Case N° 88

From Marondera, Zimbabwe

This story comes from Chifef in Marondera.

It occurred on the night of the 23/24th November, 1992 and would have been reported sooner had the witnesses had our address.

Chifef was out walking with his dogs near the plot where he lived. This had a dirt road, branching off North Road, just outside the town.

He saw what looked like a star, however it was much lower in the sky than a star, and it was moving very slowly, about 15 degrees away from the position in which Chifef was standing. There was no noise, no lights, only a very shiny reflection. It appeared to be completely spherical and the colour showed occasional tints of a bright orange-red, not over the entire surface but only on what would have been the 'forward' surface, which was the portion moving away from the witness.

The height of the object was difficult to estimate, but Chifef felt it was not less than a mile away from where he stood, but probably nearer to two miles. He thought of calling his family, but didn't do so at the time as he felt that if he did fetch them, the object might then have disappeared from sight. He watched the sphere for about 20 minutes and he could see it was on the other side of the main road to Mutare, probably above a Forestry Plantation of Hunyani Timber.

It continued its very slow movement away from the witness, at a 15 degree angle, and when it passed over a tree line, he lost sight of it.

When he got back into the house, he mentioned it to his family. The following morning, his daughter, who was 14 at the time, told him that at about 11 or 11:30 the night before, she had been awakened by a bright light shining into her bedroom. When she looked out of the window, she was able to see a bright, spherical, noiseless object in the sky about the same size as the moon, travelling behind their house. What Chifef had observed had been in the front of the house.

The daughter said she took only one look at the object, ran back to her bed and pulled the blankets over her head.

She saw no lights, heard no noise, and described the object as 'round and silver and shiny like metal.'

Chifef said, 'If this was the object which I had already seen earlier on in the evening, then it would seem that it travelled in a slow ellipse or circle and made ~~an~~ approach from entirely the opposite direction in which it had at first been travelling.'

Chifef also reported that he had written to us before, in the early seventies, concerning a spherical orange-red object which he had seen with his wife and a family friend, in daylight, for about 10 or 15 minutes, from Sunningdale, in Harare.

About the Marondera sighting, Chifef said: 'I can only personally vouch for what I saw and cannot corroborate my daughter's sighting.'

Her bedroom was on one side of the house and my own on the other, so I would not necessarily have been aware of a bright light at all and may not have woken anyway, if there had been one... It was a very clear, bright night, no clouds and very still, with good observation conditions.'

He concluded: 'I am a hunter with keen eyesight, and certainly not very impressionable.'

I have written to Chifef suggesting that it might have been a satellite which he saw, but he feels it was far too low in the sky for that. He also said that with no hills or *kopjes* in the area to use for comparison makes judging of heights difficult. He has had considerable experience with machine guns in his time and he realises that range judgement is important and says that had he been below the object, he would have set his sights to about 400 to 450 metres. But in this instance, thinking about it very carefully, he feels that it would not have been less than 300 metres and not more than 500 metres above ground level. Its movement was too slow for a meteorite, but of course, we are not aware of all the anomalous lights that move in the sky above us. What is puzzling is the length of time it was observed - 20 minutes - and one feels, from experience, that for the moment, this must remain an 'unknown'.

In 1964, Chifef went down the Zambezi River with Graham Guy, then Director of the Queen Victoria Museum, and John McGeorge, a professional photographer (recently deceased). They slept mainly on the sandbanks of the river at night; they had no other light than that which came from the moon; no glows from any village or habitation, street lights or anything like that.

Graham Guy drew their attention, one night, to an object high in the clear sky. It was a cigar-shaped object which appeared to be pulsating light and travelling very fast indeed on a straight course. It was very high up and the pulsating light was a greenish colour. There was no sound from it as it was too high for any sound to have reached them anyway. They watched it cross the sky and it travelled at this very fast rate, out of their sight. Graham Guy pronounced it as being a satellite, but Chief was always a bit dubious about this observation.

Dalene's Report

Case N° 89

Zimbabwe/Johannesburg

Dalene W. of Johannesburg, South Africa, sent in a sketch showing the large-sized light she and others saw some years ago, between Eiffel Flats and Kadoma, in Zimbabwe, near the local Drive-In cinema.

She recalls that it was on Boxing Day, 1989, when she and her in-laws were watching a Science Fiction movie at the Kadoma Drive-In Cinema and Restaurant. To the right of their car, parked facing the screen, there was a tree.

Dalene's sister-in-law was the first to spot a strange bright light in the sky, and alerted the others. The light travelled slowly on their right-hand side and stopped for a time behind the tree. They could see the tree very clearly, with the light behind it; they could not gauge the size, as it was hidden by the tree, but it must have been very large because it was the same size as the tree in front of it.

The light was a bright red-orange ball. The colour did not change throughout the time the family saw it. There was no smell that anyone noticed, nor any sound.

After a while, the orange light moved forward from behind the tree and disappeared behind some hills in the direction of Chakari, some 12 miles away.

The witnesses compared the object with an aircraft, a helicopter, etc. and came to the conclusion that it was nothing like any of those things. They all decided it was definitely unidentifiable, that is, a UFO.

The light seemed to be around the area where a new Air Force Base was at the time being constructed, and the family thought that perhaps the source of the light was inspecting the site.

Subsequently, Dalene saw another strange object over Johannesburg. It was 'sometime in May 1991' and she was part of a crowd of 12 sitting by her pool, facing Pretoria and the Hartbeespoort Dam.

This time there were several bright lights in the sky, and the people watched through binoculars. They could see a main stationary object, around which the lights moved in a clockwise direction, flashing red, blue and white colours. It looked to the watchers as if three small craft emerged from the centre of the larger object - which they thought might be a 'mother ship' - and moved across the sky in different directions, one actually moving towards Johannesburg, then back to the larger object again. This to-and-fro movement went on for quite some time.

The duration of the light display was from about 19:30 to 22:00 hours, when Dalene left the party. But the people around the pool continued to watch the objects. They first thought it might be aircraft approaching Jan Smuts Airport, but sometime later a plane flew in that direction and they all saw the difference in size and colour.

They tried to contact several people connected with the local UFO Association, as well as the Planetarium, but were unsuccessful.

The neighbours had a telescope, and they also saw the strange lights performing a display of colours. It was a cool, dark night, with few stars visible. As far as Dalene recalls, the moon was fairly high towards the west, while the 'craft' hovered and moved towards the north-west.

A Humming Light
Report from N.J. of Natal, S.Africa.

Case N° 90

'Some years ago (I can't recall how many), my wife and I went to bed at our usual time, about 22:00 hours, and went to sleep. About one o'clock in the morning, we were woken up by a loud noise, a humming sound that seemed to be over the house. I asked Jill what she thought it was - a stupid question - , then got out of bed and drew the curtains aside, to see our garden bathed in a strong, silvery light. I assumed it was caused by a full moon. I wondered whether the humming sound was coming from the Umbogintwini Factory, about six kilometres away, but then I realised it was overhead, and too loud!

'I got back into bed and we sat there feeling very uneasy. No way was I going outside!

'Suddenly, there was a loud 'whoosh', and I said to my wife, "My God, that was travelling!" We then noticed that the sound had gone and the bedroom was darker. I went to the window, moved the curtains aside, and saw that the 'moonlight' had gone and it was a black night!

'We kept this incident to ourselves as we were sure that people would either think we had made it up, or that we were round the bend!'

AN OBSERVATION

In the Budd Hopkins report on the Linda Cortile abduction case (AFRINEWS N° 8, Sept 1993, pp 16-18), some skeptics are saying that it would be difficult to have seen the event from Brooklyn Bridge. (An unidentified motorist alleges that she and several other witnesses viewed the abduction of Linda from where their cars were stalled on the Bridge.)

When I was in New York in July 1993, I took a special trip over Brooklyn Bridge - admittedly in daylight - having first ascertained where Linda's apartment was; and the 12th floor window (her apartment) could be clearly seen from where the woman reported her viewing.

**ODD SEQUEL TO SANDRA'S STORY: Case N° 81
AFRINEWS N° 9.**

This case involved two people who had gone for a walk on the beach at Muizenberg in Cape Town, South Africa, when they spotted a light in the sky which behaved in an extraordinary manner. Not only this, but they also saw a man emerge from the water, whose behaviour was exceedingly strange.

Subsequent to these events, Sandra contacted Pam Puxley (the investigator) again, and reported the following:

After she had seen the strange light and witnessed the man coming out of the sea, she went back to work. Sandra works with retarded adults and there was one man she worked with who never made a sound: no speech, no crying, nothing, not even a cough.

But after Sandra saw the light, and while she was at work, this man let out terrible screams in the middle of the garden, and said **one word**. When he did that, all three clocks in the building stopped dead. It was 12 o'clock, and even Sandra's battery-powered wristwatch stopped... **all at the same time!**

Sandra was pleased to hear a sound from the silent man, but it shocked her, and whatever word it was that he said, the result was astonishing.

Comment: Although we feel this has nothing to do with the sighting of the light on the beach, we are printing this incident as it reveals a lot about Sandra herself. She is obviously very sensitive to people and their thoughts; which might account for her reaction to the man in the water!

NOT REALLY PERTAINING TO UFOs

A witness recently made a report to your Editors and we are wondering if anyone could comment on these incidents and give some explanation as to what it might entail:

'We were staying in a cottage in Avondale, a suburb of Harare, Zimbabwe. This cottage was part of a group of six on someone's property. The people living there also saw what happened. It started with a whirlwind when everything was spinning around. (I understand that where the cottages were had been an African graveyard at one time.)

'All of a sudden, the trees started to glow, as though they were on fire, but there was no fire there. The next day when I examined them, the trees were not at all burnt.

'I didn't discuss it with anyone but in those days, the people who witnessed it thought it was witchcraft, or ghosts which had set the trees alight. The time it happened was 18:30 in the evening. It could not have been the sun shining on the trees because they definitely looked as though they were on fire.

'On another occasion, in Chinhoyi, I was with my brothers at our Uncle Steve's house. He and his wife had a shop along a dust road; really it was merely a footpath. And on that footpath my sister-in-law, as far back as she could see, saw that all the trees were on fire, as though someone had put a lot of light bulbs on the trees.

She was really frightened. She said, "If you go on that road in the night, you will find those lights 'running' in the dark."

ELIZABETH KLARER - INTERNATIONAL ENIGMA.
by Cynthia Hind

Elizabeth Klarer (83), the well-known South African UFO contactee, died in Durban's Highway Hospice in early February, 1994.

Despite her many critics - and fans, for that matter - thinking that Elizabeth had led a life of luxury and ease, this was not the case. Certainly her latter years were spent in rather poor circumstances; and I know for a fact that at one stage in the last few years, she had no accommodation, and was offered a home for about six months by another UFO contactee.

I also know that despite her wish to attend many UFO conferences overseas, she was unable to go because of the costs involved. As for the fortune she was alleged to have made on her book *Beyond the Light Barrier*, this certainly never materialised. Whatever royalties she did receive were meagre and could barely be stated to have enhanced her situation.

The last time I saw Elizabeth on her own, she was living in a small but comfortable cottage in the grounds of her son David's home in Chrisville, Johannesburg, where the plots are mostly one quarter of an acre. Frail, and walking with a stick, this was not the Elizabeth I used to know, always gentle and quietly-spoken, but defiant in the face of the critics of her bizarre experience.

We first met in 1967/68. I knew very little about 'Flying Saucers' and had only become interested because an article in *ILLUSTRATED LIFE RHODESIA* had produced a mass of letters reporting unusual experiences.

Someone wrote to me about Elizabeth Klarer and my curiosity was aroused. I was wary of her; this very attractive, auburn-haired woman, extremely genteel, her apartment in Johannesburg filled with antiques and relics of more affluent times.

She told me her story (subsequently published in *FATE* magazine, Aug. 1968), which briefly incorporated her earliest UFO sighting.

She claimed that when she was 17 (1927), she and her sister had witnessed an errant meteor being deflected from crashing on Earth by a spacecraft.

In 1957 she had her first direct contact with a 'Flying Saucer' when, riding on horseback on her sister and brother-in-law's farm in the Mooi River area of the Drakensberg mountain range (Natal, South Africa), she watched in awe as a metal craft flew over her, the wind caused by its movement lifting her hat high off her head. Behind one of the three portholes, she observed a man, arms crossed on his chest, silver-haired, slim and tall, who watched her with hypnotic eyes as the craft passed by. Months later, Elizabeth felt compelled to go to the same hill again and this time when she reached there, the spaceman stood on the ground beside his ship. When she ran towards him, he said, "Not afraid this time?" and took her aboard. He introduced himself as Akon, a research scientist. His home planet was Meton in Alpha Centauri¹, he added.

¹Alpha Centauri is the major star of a triple-star system, one of which is Proxima Centauri, the sun of Meton. According to Elizabeth, Proxima has 7 planets, all inhabited.

Elizabeth's initial contact with the craft and the spaceman is fully described in her book.²

She falls in love with Akon and he with her, and their resultant love affair produces a son, Ayling, who is born on Meton. Elizabeth says that Akon came for her when she was five months pregnant but after the birth of Ayling, she found breathing difficult and her heart was affected. Sadly, she was forced to return to Earth.

During the rest of her life, she maintained that she was in constant contact with Akon, although as she had mediumistic powers, I suspect it was through channelling rather than through physical contact; and I feel that most of the philosophy recorded in her book was obtained in this way.

Basically, it all boils down to whether one believes in Elizabeth's story or not. When first confronted with its details, I was a total disbeliever. Then, as my involvement with UFOs grew, I came across dozens of stories even more bizarre than Elizabeth's, such as Antonio Villas-Boas in Brasil, Antonio Carlos Ferreira of Mirassol, also in Brasil, Kathy Davis, the USA abductee, and many others. There was no proof for Elizabeth's story; no other witnesses, no collaboration.

Beyond the Light Barrier. First published by Howard Timmins of Cape Town, South Africa, in 1980. Now out of print. Second printing by The Aquarian Book Centre Publishers in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 1991. Still available from The Aquarian Book Centre, Shop 3, The Galleria, Cradock Ave., Rosebank, Johannesburg.

Both her sister and brother-in-law were dead and they perhaps were the only witnesses to some of the happenings. But there were certain things she said that later became a pattern for contactees and abductees who claimed to have had a UFO experience.

One has to read her book to pick up the many similarities with this modern pattern, and yet she wrote and recorded all this in the sixties! But there were also many discrepancies, not always recorded in her book, but given in interviews at various times, and in personal discussions.

There was a plant, allegedly brought back from Meton, which a well-known investigator identified at Kew Gardens as an obscure but earth-born fern. There were crystals at a Museum taken from Akon's home, but little different from those on Earth. And the ring Akon gave Elizabeth! Certainly unusual, with a central opal-like stone and two others on either side. Elizabeth did not part with the ring, so the stones remained unidentified, but to me it had the aura of an apport, brought back mysteriously from some ancient past to grace again the hand of a beautiful woman. Elizabeth left behind a controversial legacy: she was always a lady, born in an era when to produce an illegitimate child was a disgrace almost beyond redemption. Why would she have chosen such a story? Her flight in an alleged spacecraft was sensational enough.

Could she have faked the photographs she took of Akon's craft? She was intelligent and technically knowledgeable (she had a Diploma in Meteorology and was an accomplished musician), so perhaps it is possible.

Whatever my criticism of Elizabeth's story, I have always admired and liked her. She had an aura of 'specialness' about her: her lovely green eyes, her grace, her almost regal bearing. Whatever wrong path she may have chosen (if indeed, she did), she is beyond criticism now. And sadly, we will probably never know the truth!

From: SKEPTICS UFO NEWSLETTER
edited by Philip Klass.

Dr Bruce Maccabee, a leading pro-Ufologist who believes that the U.S. Government and Central Intelligence Agency are involved in a 'UFO-coverup', has confirmed that he has given several lectures on UFOs to interested CIA employees at informal 'brown-bag' lunches.

Editor's Comment: Well, isn't it about time they learned what is going on? Good-on-you, Dr Maccabee!

UFO CRASH AT ROSWELL?

In the March/April issue of INTERNATIONAL UFO REPORTER, edited by Jerome Clark, there is a report of a new UFO movie entitled ROSWELL: THE MOVIE, produced by Paul Davids and Ilene Kahn. The film should be out in the United States this summer (May-October, 1994). So watch for it on your screens. It stars Kyle MacLachlan, of DUNE fame, and Martin Sheen.

SOUTH AFRICAN ABDUCTION Case N° 50. (JOHANNESBURG 1988)

This case has developed a great deal since I last wrote about it in AFRINEWS NO.8 (Sept. 1993). At the moment I am completing a second book about UFOs in Africa and this case forms one of the chapters, but to keep readers up to date, more information has been recalled.

The Commander of the craft appears to be someone called Meleelah or Melah, or similar to that. The two women, Pat the mother and Debra the daughter, were abducted into a craft somewhere in the suburb of Northcliff, an upmarket suburb of Johannesburg. Various experiments were carried out on them, and Debra has a scoop scar just below her right breast where a knitting needle-like instrument was inserted to test her DNA, RNA, and haemoglobin.

At the time of these experiments Debra had been suffering from the after-effects of haemolytic jaundice which she had had at age 12. Since the abduction, though, she has felt extremely well and has not had to visit her doctor.

When the needle was withdrawn, Meleelah placed a small round plaster on the wound. The plaster was a bright yellow colour. Debra said, "Oh, now I can show my friends that all this really happened to me". But even as she said this, the plaster seemed to meld with her skin and faded away.

While she was on the table, one of the men came to Debra and producing what looked like a matchbox, advised her that he had to have skin samples. He took six of these, pointing out that he always took the samples from the natural folds in the skin.

The 'box' was drawn along the skin and Debra watched as the skin curled delicately inside the small enclosure. When the physical experiments were finished, Meleelah called the attention of the two women to a map of our world. Debra noted that it was an ordinary map, the type that can be purchased in most bookshops.

"Do you know what this is?" Meleelah asked.
"Of course", they replied, "a map of Earth."

Meleelah asked if they knew where they lived. They pointed out South Africa to her. "Well", Meleelah said, running her hand along the coast of South Africa from the North-West Cape around to Natal, "there will be a cataclysm and all this land will disappear. There will be waves up to 72 metres high and the water will rise up. Only those on high ground will be saved; especially in the Pyrenees area of Spain."

She also told them of a war between the United States and a Middle Eastern country, although she did not name the country. She spoke of AIDS and said, "You think this is only a homosexual disease, but it is not! It will be widely spread all over the world; man is destroying himself."
(Remember, this was 1988!)

Many more events were recorded by the two women and even at this point in time, Debra is having further recall. Only recently, she telephoned me to say that new memories, some quite frightening, had come to mind. I am certain that as time goes by, both ladies will remember more and more.

Pat told me that as they left the craft, Meleelah said to them, "You can have greater recall, or lesser recall; what do you want?" Strangely, both opted for the 'lesser' recall and one cannot help wondering why. Did something so traumatic occur that neither Debra nor Pat felt they could deal with it in their daily lives? Or is it all something from their subconscious that we can't begin to understand?

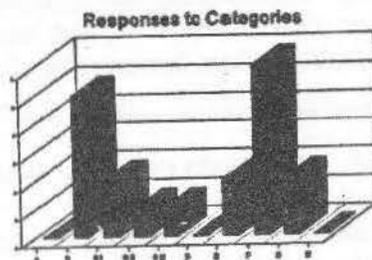
Of one thing I am absolutely sure: whatever happened in those two hours on the 19th July, 1988, both women are telling us of what was a reality to them, however else others may see it.

I DREAM OF AN ALIEN.....

Often I dream of meeting some creatures,
With one who is pleasant and kindly as well,
One who is tall, with good-looking features,
Who'll love me quite madly and yet never tell!
One who's a leader and, taking my hand,
Will lead me to riches never known before;
Will ask if there's something I want from his land,
And kneeling before me will say, "Je t'adore."
But trust to my luck I'll find someone dreary,
Who'll stick me with pins and put things up my nose,
With eyes on antennae, looking quite weary,
And smelling, of course, not at all like a rose.
He'll take all the samples he needs for his lab,
He'll toss me aside when his deeds are quite done,
And label me brusquely with a bright yellow tab,
Reading: 'This one's no good. She's not even fun.'
So I'm hoping perhaps, I'll retain my just worth,
Remaining quite happily right here on this Earth.

UFO CATEGORIES
(UFO AFRINEWS N° 9, Feb. 1994)

The response to our questionnaire has not been as good as we hoped; nevertheless, we want to thank all those who took the trouble to report back to us.



A	0	Total disbelievers
B	5	Visitors from other planets, benign, purpose unknown.
C i)	2	Visitors from other planets who need our minerals.
ii)	1	Visitors from other planets who need our water.
iii)	1	Visitors from other planets who examine our flora/fauna.
D	0	Visitors from other planets with messages of doom for Earth.
E	2	Visitors from other planets to assist us.
F	6	Visitors from 'elsewhere', with perhaps an incredible explanation.
G	2	Malevolent entities, wishing to produce a hybrid race.
H	0	Visitors who are Evil, allied to Satanism.

We are trying to think of a method for a much wider survey, here in Africa!

CLEO'S REPORT.
AN EARLY UFO. ZAMBIA

Case N° 91

This happened in September, 1965, over a week-end. I cannot recall the exact date. I had a shop and a house just over the border into Zambia. We were sitting outside at the time, around the fire, and there were some big trees close to us. There were about five people there. As we were sitting, I saw this light which was like a star. I said to the others, "What kind of a star is that? It's moving so fast, surely it can't be a plane?" And it was moving very fast, coming from the west towards where we were sitting. It was very low, not even tree height and it seemed to be coming down to land near where I had my shop, close to where we were.

We all started to run towards it, and as we ran, I could see it was round: I could see the shape very clearly, even though the light was so bright, it hurt my eyes. As we ran I called out, "It's a Flying Saucer!" The reason I said that was because I had read and seen pictures in the papers sometimes of Flying Saucers and there was no doubt in my mind that this was just what it looked like.

Then I think it saw us and it started taking off, towards the roof of the house, so we had an even closer look at it as it passed over.

And then it went off, very fast, towards the east. It was really a frightening experience; I think we were all a bit afraid. When it took off first, it went up and then to the east.

The next day, we heard that the object had gone to another farm, not too far away.

The farmer, a white man, heard his dog barking and when he went to look, he saw this thing which to him, also looked like a Flying Saucer. So he ran inside to get his camera so that he could photograph it, but when he came out, it had gone.

After it took off from my place, it went very quickly and then disappeared. But it had been really close and I could see that it was circular. The colour was whitish on the top, and it had this rim around it and where the rim was, it was quite dark there. I couldn't see any openings or port-holes as the light was so bright, it was difficult to see clearly. But I knew it wasn't an aeroplane as there was no sound and there was no smell of any kind.

When we first saw it, it was moving behind the trees, very fast, but then we got up and ran towards it and my house and shop are in a clearing, and I think that it then saw us, and instead of landing, it just took off.

Later, when the people from around us came to my shop, I heard about the white farmer also seeing it, but I never went there to speak to him. The workers who had seen it at the white farmer's, said it was on the ground, sitting down on the land in an open space. When the farmer saw it, he ran to get his camera, but he was too late. It had already taken off. I don't know if there were any marks on the ground as I did not think to go and look. But in any case, I was afraid of it all as I had heard that inside these machines there are these small people.

The five of us who saw it: myself, the people who were guarding the shop and some others who had come to sit by the fire with us, they also did not know what it was, but they thought it might be people who had come to spy on us!

When it was coming down, it came down slowly, but I cannot remember what size it was, even though it came quite close to my shop. I think I was worried about it, what it would do.'

A LITTLE BIT OF ASTRONOMY

The five planets closest to Earth are as follows:

MERCURY

This is the closest planet to the Sun with only the slightest trace of atmosphere. It is the smallest planet, with the exception of Pluto, with diameter of only 4 878 km. The surface of Mercury is rocky and heavily cratered, looking superficially very much like that of the moon. The temperature on the surface fluctuates between day and night from 427 °C to -173 °C. It has an extremely high density, second only to that of Earth.

VENUS

This is the second planet from the Sun and is closest to Earth in size and mass. It is the least known of the planets as it is surrounded by a dense atmosphere filled with impenetrable clouds that obscure its surface. The atmosphere consists of 97% carbon dioxide. The surface is very rocky and extremely hot, with temperatures of 450 °C during both day and night.

MARS

This is the first planet beyond Earth in the solar system. It is easy to recognize because of the strong red colour that led to its being named in honour of the Roman god of war.

The planet has a thin atmosphere made up mainly of carbon dioxide. The surface is both dry and cold with an average temperature of about -21 °C. It has an equatorial diameter of 6 794 km. At one time it was thought that it was criss-crossed with artificially created canals, but these have since been proved to be an optical illusion. Mars has two moon, PHOBOS and DEIMOS.

JUPITER

This is by far the largest planet in our solar system, with an equatorial diameter of 142 796 km. It is also the most massive of the planets. It has a rocky core surrounded by liquid hydrogen, above which lies the atmosphere. The most interesting feature in its atmosphere is the Great Red Spot, now known to be a kind of whirling storm. The surface area of the Spot alone is greater than that of Earth.

SATURN

Without doubt the most beautiful object in our solar system. Like Jupiter, it has a gaseous surface and a solid core. The most outstanding feature of Saturn is its rings which orbit the planet. The rings consist mainly of numerous small particles which range from grains of dust to boulders a few tens of metres across. The equatorial diameter is 120 000 km (9,5 times that of Earth). It has a very low density which indicates that it is primarily composed of hydrogen and helium.

NIGHT SKY

I love to sit and watch the stars
and seek out planets such as Mars;
or see the Southern Cross point out
the way down South (if I'm in doubt!)
Orion's Belt is always clear,
his weapon not a sword of fear.
And Sirius, large and brilliant white,
outshines most stars which are in sight,
Canopus, Rigel, quite clearly seen,
and others with a lesser gleam.
Blinking, winking, sometimes prancing,
how I love their ballet dancing.
The sky at night's a wondrous scene,
Alone I sit and gently dream.

THE 'CLICK' SOUND

Despite Albert Budden and I being on the warpath and, he asserts, on opposing sides, I am grateful to him for many pointers of value for UFO researchers. In my last UFO AFRINEWS, I accused him of not reading fully what I had to say about the 'click' sound, and he now responds thus:

I did read your report which suggested that this auditory phenomenon might indicate an altered state of consciousness. However, as I pointed out, this is not the case. It is the Page Effect as outlined in THE HANDBOOK OF MAGNETIC PHENOMENA- by Burke which supplies the answer.

THE JACK JONES CASE (N°. 49, AFRINEWS 7, Jan.1993)

Budden says of this case in further comments:

Your cases are not really reports but stories. There are no investigation details whatsoever, e.g. weather conditions, medical background of the witness, geological data, maps, or even the results of the witness' sight test. If someone sees something so unusual, even if there is another witness, one must start the investigation from basics and check what they are seeing normally. Surely this is essential?

You state the electrical sub-station was near Vanderbijlpark, over three hundred kilometres from Bloemfontein, so how could that fire-ball (of huge proportions) know that there was going to be a sub-station at Jones' home? I really cannot see what you are trying to say. You seem to imply that the fireball actively picked up Jones' car, but how do you know that this was the case? Why could not the UAP (for that is undoubtedly what it was) have been heading in that direction anyway, the link with the car being assumed?

Also, from my investigations of similar cases, it is clear that such phenomena are electromagnetic in nature and follow fault lines. Hence the need for the geological data. The car could have been travelling along a fault line.

As far as your assumption that it was Jones that implied an intelligence: it is clear from your whole approach to the subject that you share this view. Do you deny it?

Your editorial certainly states this in no uncertain terms, i.e. that all UFOs are of intelligent alien origin. You actually title the piece 'Followed by an Intelligence?'

Come off it, you are a believer in aliens, are you not?

COMMENT:

We apologise for omitting to say that the night Jones travelled with his young mechanic was a clear night with very little moonlight. The weather through this area is generally good at night, both in winter and summer. Jones' medical background was excellent. He is a tall, wiry man around 70 years of age and does not wear glasses. But it is true, apart from asking him about his health and eyesight, we did not test his eyes, nor take him to the doctor. We did not feel it was a necessary requirement in this case. But for future reference, we shall bear this in mind!

In Budden's initial comments regarding this case, he mentioned that the electrical sub-station was probably the reason for the disappearance of the ball of flame when it entered each town he passed through (which is what happened), so we corrected this impression by stating where the sub-station actually was.

We have no quarrel with Budden's identification of what the fireball was; we merely pointed out inconsistencies in his identification, and Jones' actual story. Also the fact that whether the National Road from Bloemfontein to Vanderbijlpark is on a geological fault or not, hundreds of cars travel that route each evening, so how come the fireball picked up Jones' car each time, and not any other passing vehicle? Is that how a UAP behaves? - (Editors)

A RETRACTION and some Real Proof

It has been brought to our attention that the two tabloid stories published in UFO AFRINEWS N° 6 (July 1992, pp 17-21) are a complete fabrication.

So be it! In fact, we were pretty sure that the Brenda van der Hoerten story - if she existed - did not apply to anyone in South Africa.

To try and establish the truth of this story, we had our contacts in South Africa look for her name in the main telephone directories: there was no name even close to hers, no record of the story in any of the major newspapers, because, had it really happened, it would have been extremely difficult to believe that not one single newspaper, e.g. the Argus Group, etc. would have carried her story credibly.

We had our doubts, but as the item was published by such a large circulation newspaper, we felt that perhaps a vestige of truth existed. Alas, it did not. With reference to the second case of a tribe allegedly from Mars, we felt this was obviously far-fetched but wondered if the remnants of a tribe existed who were astronomically advanced and should be further investigated. Having read Robert Temple's THE SIRIUS MYSTERY, we felt that there could be other African tribes who had some connection with the stars and Outer Space, even if the connection was only a very tenuous one.

But according to our informant, this story too, is a figment of someone's imagination. We apologise for even printing the information without rigorous checking, and hope we will be forgiven.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From Mrs S. Hedebro, Mt Pleasant, Harare.

I am a UFO-interested Swedish diplomat's wife and I have read a few issues of AFRINEWS over the years. I must say you two are doing quite a job to make people more aware of what is going on. Whatever that may be.....

What about the letters to the Editor of THE HERALD describing peculiar lights here in Harare? Have you been able to look into those incidents? Many questions to be answered.

Some weeks ago a local female friend told me that she and her husband saw two round metallic UFOs in Glen Lorne some five or six years ago. They were flying at a very high speed over her house in a westerly direction. Are you interested in this?

I asked her if she ever reported it. I got the answer, "and where on earth should I report it?"

I think that UFO AFRINEWS should make itself much more visible so that all those people in this country who had an encounter of some kind could know that there really is someone in this country who listens, understands and does research and documentation. One who doesn't ridicule their experiences.

Extract from Albert Budden's letter:

You comment how ufology has changed and is much more serious. You do not seem to realise that the UFO scene is very much like Hollywood now. Big money and big egos are involved.

Books are being made into films for the mass market and writers are getting huge advances for their books. There are relatively few 'stars' at the top and a lot of competition which is extremely fierce.

Add to this the fact that there is a major controversy which is in effect a religious war, i.e. believers in aliens and non-believers who accept that there is a phenomenon of great interest, but that it has nothing to do with aliens, and you have a very potent mix indeed. Careers, fame and money are being built on ufology. People are suing each other for stating their doubts or own interpretations, and there is also the scientific community (of which I am one) who have their own interests in the phenomenon.

Ufology is no longer a few half-baked ideas and a jolly chat about flying saucers. It is total war! It is clear that you and I are on opposing sides, and I have had to become a ufological warrior in order to survive. It is not for the faint hearted.

My advice to you is to stop complaining that scientists are 'rude and disparaging' and get far more hard-nosed, i.e. if you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen.

Editor:

How did you know I liked cooking? The heat in the kitchen has never bothered me; it is the asinine remarks that ruin the rumpsteak!

From Gary Davis, Virginia, USA.

I just wanted to tell you how much I liked UFO AFRINEWS N° 8. It was fascinating and extremely well written. I believe most sightings in the USA and Russia are military test planes and/or satellites (the latest OMNI has a great article about some of the Russian UFO flaps), but that doesn't explain yours!

Enclosed is a check for the next issue.

From Ms K. Chan Jack, of Harare, Zimbabwe.

I would like to thank you for your extremely informative magazine. I have found it intriguing and thought-provoking, without having the usual sensationalism and "WE ARE BEING INVADED FROM MARS" attitude of most UFO reporting. I would also like to ask if you could comment on the 'Adamski phenomenon' in your next issue. The programme UFOS - MIRACLE OF THE UNKNOWN was on our TV recently and dealt extensively with UFOs, but centred particularly on Adamski's alleged 'Encounter'.

A couple of years ago I read an old book, circa 1950s or early 60s - the title of which I have forgotten - which detailed George Adamski's 'encounter' with an alien from Venus. I did not watch all of the UFO programme, but from what I gathered I gained an impression - perhaps mistaken - that the origin of his alien had mysteriously changed from Venus to somewhere outside this solar system! What a coincidence that this change should have come about now after space probes have discovered that NO possible life as we know it (certainly not Adamski's humanoids) could exist on barren Venus!

I am not denouncing Adamski as a complete fraud but I do find his 'experience' and later claims that the aliens gave him a pendant, some artefacts, etc., as rather suspicious.

I would appreciate any comments from you.

Comment:

With regard to Adamski, most of the leading ufologists do NOT believe him at all, and although on the evidence I have read from both sides of the stack, I am inclined to agree with them, I also feel that from subsequent reports we have had, perhaps he did observe something 'unknown'.

I have always thought that people like him who are brought to fame by their sighting, are often under extreme pressure from the media and might be inclined to add to their story to satisfy the Press. But there is no doubt that there was a lot that was fraudulent about Adamski. He called himself 'Professor' but it was a designation of his own making and some of the pictures he is supposed to have taken were proven fakes.

My best advice to you is to try and read **GEORGE ADAMSKI: THE UNTOLD STORY**, by Lou Zinsstag and Timothy Good, published by Ceti Publications, England, in 1983. I think that in all these way-out stories where the witness appears to be suspect, there is a kernel of truth but the difficulty is to separate the wheat from the chaff.

From George Masengu of Budiriro, Zimbabwe.

...My grandmother in Gutu once told me that she saw flames of fire scampering or flying in the sky during a clear night.

From Jan L Aldrich, of 534 Westminster Road, Canterbury, CT 06331, USA.

I recently purchased your fine publications from Arcturus Books. They are a significant contribution to the literature.

I notice that you are interested in UFOs near, in, or interacting with, water. I have enclosed a couple of references which might be of interest. [See **WATER AND ITS CONNECTION WITH UFOs**. below]

You also seem to have several sightings of triangular-shaped objects. There have been several of these over Connecticut. Since it requires a major archaeological dig, I shall forward these references in the next couple of weeks.

I do extensive research in old newspaper and other periodicals files. While my main interest is pre-Arnold reports, I also emphasise the 1947-1954 period. I would be interested in corresponding with others who do research or have collections for these periods.

WATER AND ITS CONNECTION WITH UFOs

In **AFRINEWS N°4** we drew attention to the correlations between UFOs and water, and quoted several significant cases in which UFOs were either involved with the taking of water or the request for water, although its ultimate destination (whether to drink it or use it medicinally was not established) was not obvious.

In the letter from Jan Aldrich, the following cases (not in Africa) are also brought to our attention and we felt readers might be interested to learn of these:

'In Spain a sighting was made at the city of Camarasa on April 14th, 1947. People living near the Riegos y Fuerzas del Ebrío hydro-electric power plant claimed that a luminous object came down out of the sky, landed on the water behind the dam, floated for a time, and then was seen to sink beneath the surface.'

'An incident occurred in Roros, Norway, in August, 1947. Mr Bernard Solli, Chairman of the community, was haymaking near Lake Djupsjoen. Suddenly he heard a powerful noise and saw a grey-blue, aluminium-coloured, shining object. It floated down towards an islet, turned at an abrupt angle and landed in a big cascade of water. When the waves had calmed, the object was still floating on the waterfront, but sank after a while.

The UFO group of Trondheim made investigations 20 years after the incident (Summer 1967), with the help of two frogmen, but nothing was found.'

NEW BOOKS

ALLERGIES AND ALIENS: THE VISITATION EXPERIENCE, by Albert Budden. Price: 5 Pounds + postage. By Mail Order Only, from Discovery Times Press, St Lukes House, 270 Sandycombe Rd, Kew, Surrey TW9 3NP, England.

ABDUCTION: HUMAN ENCOUNTERS WITH ALIENS, by John E Mack M.D. Published by Charles Scribner's Sons (Macmillan), New York. Price: US\$22.

Dr John Mack is a Professor of Psychiatry at the Cambridge Hospital, Harvard Medical School, and founding director of the Center for Psychology and Social Change. He seems to be coming in for plenty of flak from all sides because of his dedication to the abduction scene. His latest book features 13 in-depth case histories of alien encounters not reported in any previous UFO book, and should be well worth reading.

TAKEN - INSIDE THE ALIEN-HUMAN ABDUCTION AGENDA, by Dr Karla Turner. Price: US\$14.95.
A study of eight case histories by a qualified psychoanalyst.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE UFO CRASH AT ROSWELL, by Randle & Schmitt. Price: US\$19.95.
New evidence, new witnesses: if we are ever going to prove the reality of UFOs, perhaps this is where it will start.

UFO CRASH/RETRIEVALS. Status Report VII, by Leonard Stringfield. Price: US\$16.50.
Len Stringfield has been examining reports on crashed UFOs for many years and each new book is a revelation of fresh events and growing incidents. Unfortunately, we haven't yet had a really genuine piece of physical evidence to show the public, and until then, how is one to convince them?
Always a good and interesting read.

All above books available from Arcturus Books, Inc

BOOKSELLERS OF UFO BOOKS

SOUTH AFRICA:
AQUARIAN BOOK CENTRE, Shop 3, The Galleria, Cradock Ave., Rosebank, Johannesburg, South Africa.

UNITED KINGDOM:

SPACELINK BOOKS, 115 Hollybush Lane, Hampton,
Middlesex,
TW12 2QY, England.

UNITED STATES:

ARCTURUS BOOKS, INC., 1443 S.E. Port St Lucie Boulevard,
Port St Lucie, Florida 34952, U.S.A.

RECOMMENDED UFO MAGAZINES

We cannot possibly list them all but will name a few in every
issue.

AUSTRALIA:

THE AUSTRALIAN UFO BULLETIN -Box 43, Moorabbin,
Victoria 3189. US\$20 per year (magazine only).

UFO ENCOUNTER - Box 222, 50 Albert St., Brisbane QLD
4002. A\$25 per year.

UFO REPORTER - Box Q95, Queen Victoria Bldg, Sydney
2000. A\$20 per year.

CANADA:

UFORIC (Lorne Goldfader, Director). Dept 25 - 1665 Robson
St. Vancouver, B.C., CANADA V6G 3C2.

DELVE - 18 Shetland St., Willowdale, Ontario, CANADA
M2M 1X5.

GREAT BRITAIN:

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW - Box 162, High Wycombe,
Bucks, HP13 5DZ, U.K. 8 Pounds per year for 4 issues.

NORTHERN UFO NEWS - 37 Heathbank Rd., Cheadle Heath,
Stockport, Cheshire SK3 0UP, U.K.