

Letters

A request for information

Book serialisation

A FEARFUL SYMMETRY

A TRUE STORY OF ALIEN INTRUSION INTO HUMAN LIVES

By D. Lynne Bishop

Editorial

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On Saturday 10th January 1998 UK.UFO.NW were very honoured to have on it's IRC (internet relay chat) #UFO channel Graham W. Birdsall editor of the highly popular UK periodical 'UFO Magazine'. UFO Magazine has 140,000 readers in over 36 countries.

The 70 visitors to the channel came from as far or as near as:
Sweden : Iceland : UK : USA : Isle of Man (UK) : Northern Island :
Germany : Netherlands

We would like to thank Graham for his patience and perseverance during the week leading up the meeting. Not everything went to plan. Graham was good enough to drive to his office's at Quest Publications to connect. When you consider he did this at 11pm (UK time) at night, he put himself out for us. We were all most grateful.

Our thanks also to Andrew Metcalf, UFO Magazine's web creator for sorting irc programs out at Graham's end.

Further thanks go to Crow & Raine for making an excellent job of moderating the meeting and also to Paul_J for whom without the meeting would not have been possible on that night. Hackers took a hand in trying to shut down the irc servers used by our channel throughout the world. Paul_J worked his fingers to the bone getting everything back on line and keeping it that way.

The log of the meeting is below.

Readers are reminded that we have Dan Sherman author of Above Black Project Preserve Destiny as our special guest on Saturday 31st January. Further details will be posted shortly.

Graham Birdsall on the UK-UFO-NW IRC #UFO Channel

This is a cleaned up log, of the United Kingdom UFO Network's Saturday 10th January 1998 IRC meeting on #UFO with guest Graham Birdsall editor of the UK's UFO Magazine. Graham kindly gave up a couple of hours of his spare time to answer some questions for the visitors to the channel. Below you will find a list of questions that were asked along with his replies. The name in between the < >'s e.g. <Lloyd> is the nick name of the IRC user asking the question and where you see <Graham> is of course the start of Graham's reply.

CREDITS:

We would like to thank Dave_UFO for arranging this meeting with Graham Birdsall.

We would like to thank Graham for attending this meeting and answering the questions put to him.

We would like to thank all the people involved in asking questions.

We would like to thank everyone who attended the meeting.

We would like to thank Crow & Raine for moderating the meeting

Session Start: Sat Jan 10 23:12:21 1998

*** Crow sets mode: +o Graham

<Dave_UFO> Hello everyone and welcome to the UK.UFO.NW -IRC- UFO channel. We are very honoured to have with us tonight our special guest Graham Birdsall. Graham is the editor of the highly popular publication 'UFO Magazine'.

<Dave_UFO> Raine's busy typing. We'll be there in a sec.

<Graham> Roger that, perhaps if I end with GWB rather than ?? it might help you GWB

*** Raine sets mode: +m

<Dave_UFO> Graham: Thats great thanks.

<Dave_UFO> Ok Raine - are we ready?

<Crow> ok we are nearly ready Graham when you have answered the questions would you plz type ?? to indicate you are ready for the next question

<Graham> How about GWB

<Crow> GWB will be fine thanks.

<Raine> This channel is now being moderated, please /msg raine or crow with your questions and NOT Graham

<Dave_UFO> We have had a few hiccups over the last week, preparing Graham to be with us tonight. I would certainly like to thank him for his patience and perseverance and also Andrew Metcalf who got the connection going at Graham's end. Graham has certainly put himself out for us tonight as he has actually had to go into his offices at Quest Publications to be with us.

<Dave_UFO> Graham we thank you for being here and hope that you enjoy this evening as I'm sure we will.

<Graham> Thanks GWB

<Crow> #ufo2 is open for discussion if you want to join

<Raine> Graham are you gpoing to give us a quick introduction please before we start with the questions?

<Graham> Well, it's been a long day so I don't want to bore anyone, but I've been in this subject now for 31 years and the enthusiasm is still there to get at the answers GWB

<Raine> <CoolNess> First I'd like to say Hi and welcome to #ufo Mr Birdsall. What I would like to ask is this. With reference to the Alien Autopsy film you are on record as saying that you believe it to be fake. Now the evidence is fairly equal as to whether its fake or genuine so is it your instinct/gut feeling or something else that makes you believe it (the AA) to be fake?

<Graham> Ever since Ray Santilli made his comments about seeing a certain President in the observation window, I've expressed my doubts. We still await independent analysis on one single frame of the footage, not the video tape, so what more can I say?

*** Phill changes topic to "Graham Birdsall, Editor of the UK UFO Magaine is currently the guest speaker. To ask a question, /msg it to Raine."

<Graham> GWB

<Raine> <Tinman-BF> question for Graham - Do you believe UFOs are man made or originate from other planets were alien species may control them

<Graham> I'm convinced a small residue of UFOs are "not of this world" and the evidence suggests they are intelligently controlled. Whether these are piloted or remotely controlled is anyone's guess, but folks have been reporting a variety of occupants for the last 50 years, and they don't look like us GWB

<Raine> <CoolNess> Graham, have you ever heard "news" first from internet newsgroups such as Errol Bruce- Knapps excellent Global Updates, and have you ever been tempted to print some of the

postings?

<Graham> Yes, I have indeed heard a great deal of news first time of the Internet, and Errol's newsgroup is always interesting. Timothy Good met with Errol while at a lecture for a military get-together in Canada a few weeks ago and spoke highly of him GWB

<Raine> <Crow> Hi Graham thanks for joining us tonight, can you tell us if when you recently visited Brazil, you recieved any new information conserning the Varginha Case.

<Graham> Considerable news came out of Brasilia, not least about the Varginha incident. I persuaded a British film crew to come to Brazil and they will be doing a one-hour special on this case. I'll keep my responses brief to give your questionners a fair crack GWB

<Raine> <Dave_UFO> I was seriously of the opinion that as the year 2000 quickly approaches we were almost at the point of a Governmental release that UFOs and aliens do actually exist. That was until the USAF made that ridiculous statement in 1997 claiming that the bodies found at Roswell were crash dummies. What does your vast experience tell you. Are we any closer to learning the truth officially?

<Graham> Any dummy can tell us dummy, said Walter Haut. The air force have invented time travel for dummies, said Stan Friedman. The Pentagon shot itself in the foot, and the journalists at that press conference were sufficiently well informed about Roswell to suggest as such. Brasilia had a senior Federal Government official open proceedings, and two senior Brazilian Air Force officials were there at the closing ceremony, on stage. Some governments are very

<Raine> <Bigyin> Was there any new UFO sigtings discussed at the conference?

<Graham> Plenty, from dozens of international as well as Brazilian researchers. The best evidence came from the Chilean representatives (some of whom now sit on the Air Force Committee on UFOs). I saw some staggering video tape which had many jaws (including mine) drop to the floor. Amazing stuff and a "flying ring" that appeared in the sky, turned-turtle, and then dropped to speed off horizontally just a few hundred feet above the ground. No wonder the Chile

<Crow> Graham I think you are typing a bit too much text in one go and we are loosiing it the last words we saw was: No wonder the Chile

<Graham> Sorry - I wrote 'no wonder the Chilean AF established a committee on UFOs GWB

<Raine> <HarryD> Mr Graham (or is this your firstname?;) ..are you aware of the fact that many publicers today are being USED to spread desinfo.... for instance in the case of BillyMeier ,who I know personally, which is being defamed awfully...but who"s contacts are real as I have personally witnessed !!<HarryD> But it seems that Kall Korffs desinfo seems to be copied by al the publicers without rechearching the claims of Billy being fraudulent...

<Crow> people if you are not on the Harrow.UK.EU.UltraNET.Org it maybe a good idea to change server seems the servers are under an attack from hackers

<Graham> Billy Meier's material is suspect because models were found close to his Swiss home that were very similar to what appeared in his photos and footage, but Wendelle Stevens swears by the guy. Perhaps if Bruce Mac' got hold of the original negatives and footage, we could make a decision one way or the other GWB

<Raine> <Tinman-BF> Q: What do you feel about the subject of govenment secrecy

<Graham> Government secrecy on this subject is well documented, or should I say, un-documented through the release of about 30,000 hitherto classified UFO papers. I don't believe in the worldwide conspiracy stuff however, can you honestly see the USA in a liaison with Iran, Iraq or Libya over this issue? GWB

<Raine> <Squeezer> Mr Graham, have their been any recent developments on the Roswell, NM, July 1947 crash?

<Graham> <Graham> I met with Jesse Marcel Jnr in Brasilia and found him to be a very honest and somewhat humble, shy gentleman. Jesse's

comments about his father, the material, the case in general, were highly sincere. He was told by a high-ranking official in Washington D.C. that Roswell happened, and was not science fiction. He repeated that publicly in Brasilia. GWB

<Raine> <CyDoNiA> What are your thoughts and theories on the Mars and Moon abnormalities, Mainly the Face on Mars ?

<Graham> I met with Dr. Mark Carlotto in Brasilia (had him speak for us at Solihull UK last February). Mark told me that he had a meeting with NASA's Global Surveyor team, they promised him and Proff. Stanley McDaniel that everytime the space probe passes over Cydonia, they will switch their high image cameras to maximum. That's an exclusive for you. GWB

<Raine> <KennethA> The last I heard was that Santilli refuses to release the film to Kodak for analysis (the original film, that is). Doesn't this indicate to you that he's not being honest about his claims?

<Graham> I can't possibly comment....GWB

<Raine> <Aristotl> Mr. Birdsall, in your years of investigating the UFO phenomenon, have you noticed anything which you describe as peculiarly British, ie. is generally not seen outside the UK?

<Graham> Fascinating question. Need some time to ponder on that, but my initial reaction is to say "No". What is reported by folks here in Britain is very similar to events, incidents reported across the globe. I have to say however that British Ufology is well thought of and much valued overseas. GWB

<Raine> <Bigyin> what new UFO news came out of the conference in Brazil?

<Graham> I'd be here until 6.00am answering that one. Outstanding presentations by so many people, but the Russian Cosmonaut, Alexandr Balandine told the packed venue that future anomalous images captured by their cosmonauts would be shared between the Russian Space Agency, NASA, and a Forum of UFO researchers. Alexandr spent six months on MIR. GWB

<Raine> <Benat2> forwarded from red (~Java_New1@pool1-18.netmatters.com) on irc.ultranet.org:<red> Hi graham, Do u think we should be worried about the millennium.

<Graham> Only if you're hoping to see in the New Year in Edinburgh, tickets will be hard to get...GWB

<Raine> <Dave_UFO> Wendle Stevens made a big play of the Nashville, Tennessee UFO which you have featured. It now appears that these photograph's were nothing more than disco lights and dry ice in some sort of night club. Has Wendelle Stevens made any further comments on this?

<Graham> No, he hasn't. But you are correct, the Nashville UFO pics do appear to have been a classic set of disco lights. People who are in the business of hoaxing take great delight in fooling the UFO community, so we have to be constantly on our guard. It's frustrating, and time wasting, but Wendelles in his eighties now and I feel for the guy. GWB

<Raine> <SickBoy> Hello. What evidence do you base your magazine's assertion that unidentified lights in the sky, are likely to be of intelligent ET origin?

<Graham> I don't, and never have made that assertion. Go back 20 years and you will find my term of UFOs as Unconventional Flying Objects was probably the first time such a terminology had been made. I used it to describe RPVs and UAVs. GWB

<Raine> <minator> Graham, First of all Great mag. There have been a few interesting developments recently: alien embryo, UFO crash filmed, the mexican film. Do you think these are real or the work of hoaxers & why should so much be going on at once?

<Graham> Primarily because the means to communicate such events have improved way beyond anything that was available to us in the late 60s and 70s. I met with Jaime Maussan in Brasilia, spent an hour interviewing him, watched his excellent presentation. I'm now convinced the 6 August '97 event in Mexico City did happen. Over 20

witnesses, but as for the authenticity of the video tape? Jaime told me, and I quote: "I don't know..." He did have his reasons howe

<Crow> grayham I think you are typing a bit to much text in one go you can answer in smaller size chunks of text if you would

<Graham> Roger that. GWB

<Raine> <GPZarquon> Question : Does Graham believe in any type of Time Travel ?

<Graham> All things are possible, who is to say? Note the recent soundings by astronomers who found that a black hole was distorting, and I quote: "Time and space". Makes you think, doesn't it? GWB

<Raine> <Yelowrose> Please ask Graham if he thinks we are at war with any beings "out there" right now? Thank you.

<Graham> Good question. Are some UFOs or their actions hostile? One can cite numerous accounts where UFO incidents have resulted in fatalities, especially so with pilots. David Jacobs brings out a new book shortly entitled "The Threat" - I was with Budd Hopkins last night attending the big live debate on Central TV, Budd think's this book will scare the pants off a lot of people. GWB

<Raine> <Lister> Graham, what are your general thoughts about the crop circle phenomenon? (Bearing in mind that some were obviously hoaxes while others were less easily explainable)

<Graham> I can't tell you the number of times I'm asked this question, especially when I travel overseas. There is virtually no media publicity in the UK attached to crop circles, hasn't been for years. So what incentive does that afford the hoaxers? Why spend hours each night carving out these incredible images, when there is no publicity? Hope you get my drift. GWB

<Raine> <Tinman-BF> Q: When and how did your interest in UFology start and have you ever sighted one ?

<Graham> Thirteen years old, back in Leeds in 1967. Saw a huge oval-shaped object, half-size of the full Moon travel silently above my parents home. Watched it go over the house then ran through the living room into the back garden (all of 2-3 seconds). Went out, stared up and it was nowhere to be seen. I've seen several UFOs since, none of which fell into a bracket which I could relate to in conventional terms. GWB

<Raine> <Dan> Graham, after the celebrations in July, many ufologists have decided to take a new approach and are looking to a new ufology where they search for more terrestrial answers to the ufo phenomenon. It seems many ufologists are giving up on the extra-terrestrial hypothesis. What is your view on this?

<Graham> I've no problem with that. I researched RPVs and UAVs years ago. The more informed a person becomes about new aviation and space technologies, the better understanding one has when it comes to chipping away for answers. GWB

<Raine> <SickBoy> Do you think that Nick Pope was the best the MOD could do when it came to investigating UFOs? Or was he just there for the public, with the real work happening behind closed doors?

<Graham> <Graham> Nick's an interesting guy. Did he see all the UFO reports that crossed his desk, or just a select few? I'm convinced (and suspect he now shares this view), that many reports were kept hidden from view. He might have come across to the UFO community as the genuine article had he chosen to resign from office before releasing his book, but who is to say. GWB

<Raine> <jarod> ask him if the brazil conf was video'd and if so whens it available etc

<Graham> Yes, Brasilia was video taped, and I'm sure A.J. Gevaerd will be releasing details of how to acquire specific tapes in the near future. I'm hoping to not only obtain some of the Chilean footage, but persuade British TV to air it. I'm staggered that none of this has been broadcast on news channels around the world. GWB

<Raine> <Carnado> M.Heseman states in his german ufo-mag that chile wants to set up a satellite (called BETA) to orbit for monitoring ufo's, any coment on that?

<Graham> I have yet to see that claim verified, but it wouldn't surprise me. Chile and a number of nations are concerned about the penetration of their air space by unknown objects. Remember, its the Chilean pilots and radar confirmation of these that went some way to establishing the investigative committee. GWB

<Raine> <Gandalf1> how do you feel about the abduction phenomena, have you come across any evidence that makes you think it is either REALLY happening or not AT ALL

<Graham> That's what we discussed on Central TV last night (Friday). Abduction experiences occur throughout the world, that much we know. I know of a couple in Equador, two native Indians, no TV no electrical power, neither can read. Yet they report the same experience as other abductees. Their home is four wooden poles and a sack-cloth for a roof. GWB

<Raine> <Bigyin> any news on any new European UFO sightings?

<Graham> Shouldn't be telling you this, but the recent "fireball" event over Greenland was no fireball or cosmic debris. A lot of information has surfaced about three UFO landings, one on a small island between Greenland and Canada. Hope to have more in the next mag. GWB

<Raine> <Carnado> Did the brasilian conferene bring forward any new info on the Mexico 6.Aug event/film?

<Graham> Yes. Please refer to my earlier answer. Also, two witnesses were injured by the passing UFO. One suffered water on the brain and the other, a woman, was badly scorched on her arms. GWB

<Raine> <MJ-12> ok: what advise would you give to someone looking for a job in the ufology field?

<Graham> Keep working to improve your knowledge about the subject. Attain journalistic credentials, PC/MAC useage etc. We employ eight people, it's hard work but rewarding. I guess I have spent 25 years doing this voluntarily, so have at least acquired the knowledge, but just go out and keep informed. GWB

<Raine> <hackit> graham as a person who has been lucky enough to have been privy to seeing thing most of us would like to have seen for ourselves do you personally believe that ufos actually are from other universes/dimemnsions

<Graham> I can honestly state for the record that in my opinion, some UFOs are indeed extraterrestrial, but from whence they cometh, who knows. I concur with Stan Friedman, let's stop being "apologist Ufologists". Remember, we are in a majority right now of those who believe UFOs are real. The sceptics will always be around, but they apply one Golden Rule: "Don't bother me with the facts, my mind's made up." You should bother to read up on the facts, as shou

<Raine> <SickBoy> What is your opinion on the hypothesis that many UFOs are mirages, due to a temperature inversion, of astronomical objects below the obsever's horizon? Steuart Cambell has written an interesting book on this subject, have you read it?

<Graham> Yes, Steuart and I go back many years and enjoy numerous radio debates on the topic. Over 400 radar tapes have been acquired of UFO incidents. I've spoken with many RAF radar operators who have tracked these things. They spoke of solid objects performing way beyond anything they had hitherto seen. Remember the Belgian radar tape from March 1990? The UFO descended from 10,000ft to less than 500ft in less than 5 seconds. We interviewed one of the Belg

<Dave_UFO> Graham you have been typing away for over an hour. Would you like to take a rest for a few minutes. We don't want to let you go just yet if that's ok with you.

<Graham> Hi Dave, I'm OK until 01.00 GMT, then have to call it quits. I'm with a film crew tomorrow at 8.30am in Cheshire to interview a pilot who saw an FT. Need some sleep beforehand. GWB

<Dave_UFO> That's fine Graham...Thank you.

<Dave_UFO> Raine: We'll carry on.

<Raine> graham could you please type in the last bit of what you

said?

<Raine> We interviewed one of the Belg

<Crow> we goto We interviewed one of the Belg

<Crow> should be one of the Belgium ??

<Graham> Sure, I wrote that we interviewed one of the Belgian AF pilots here in the Uk who chased that UFO during March 1990. Everything he told us is on tape (been played at our conferences and transcribed in UFO Magazine). It was no temperature inversion. GWB

<Crow> great thanks

<Raine> <Dave_UFO> UFO Magazine must be one of the longest running magazine's of it's type. Just how long has it been going and how long have you been involved with it?

<Graham> It originated from a newsletter format that was produced in the late '70s. UFO Magazine has been around since 1981, but became a newsstand publication in the summer of 1994, after which others have jumped on the badwagon, but that was no surprise. At least you can still telephone us between 9.00am and 6.00pm during the week if you want to have a chat. GWB

<Raine> <lloyd> Graham, do you think we are getting close to some sort of announcement on ET life, eg, ancient Mars life or primitive European etc?

<Graham> Personally, I do believe that recent soundings by Dan Goldin at NASA, the potential for ancient evidence of life on Mars etc, is no coincidence. NASAs "Origins" programme, initiated in December '96 by Vice President Al Gore, has to be seen in this context. GWB

<Raine> <MJ-12> what are your thoughts of the latest rumours that area 51 being abandoned?

<Graham> A timely question. I'm travelling to Nevada on 2 February and will be spending some time in and around Area 51, so should have a better idea of the current situation. In our next issue of UFO Magazine, we have an exclusive feature on what some believe is the new Area 51, found by a guy who took photographs (which we will publish) before black helicopters chased him away. GWB

<Raine> <CyDoNiA> Has there been any further Human mutilations in Brazil. And do you know what the result of the investigations into the subject by Brazilian authorities?

<Graham> I'm not aware of any substantive new evidence suggesting there have been any new human mutilations in Brazil, but this is a highly sensitive issue, probably one of THE most sensitive in Ufology. We are familiar with other cases, but that's all I can say on the matter. GWB

<Raine> <CoolNess> Graham, with reference to my first question about the AA, it is fairly well known that the sheriff of Roswell (I'm afraid I've forgot his name) looked fairly similar to the then president Truman, and the sheriff would have a fairly valid reason to be overseeing the autopsy, could it not be him?

<Graham> The question is valid, but I have to come back to my initial comment: We have yet to see a solitary 16mm frame of the original autopsy footage put in the hands of an independent analyst. The red stop light should have been switched on at the outset, but for reasons best known to those most closely involved with the 'footage', it was not done so. GWB

<Raine> <AlienCity> Graham, Have you ever felt you were being directly manipulated by any 'outside forces' to put over any specific views or opinions on ufo stories/info in your magazine?

<Raine> <Graham> Some very good questions here tonight, and this is no exception. Yes, is my answer, but most times I can weed these out. I'm a free spirit in this subject and because of that am considered dangerous in some quarters, or so I have been told. However, I've told NSA people (who have visited our offices many time - Menwith Hill is but 4 miles away), that I'm also aware of sensitive issues. GWB

<Raine> -AstroJoe- Please ask Graham if '95 & '96 have been exceptional years for UFO sightings, including reports of crashes (compared to say 15 years before that).

<Graham> 1996 produced the largest number of UFO reports in the UK seen in 25 years. Alleged UFO crashes have also risen in frequency, but Varginha is certainly one that I would recommend folks read about. GWB

-[continued in part 2]-

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