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GUEST EDITORIAL:- 'An open letter to the Northern UFO News'

(Our contributor is Harry Griesberg, co-ordinator of ACOS (the Australian Co-ordination section for the Center for UFO Studies)

It was with great interest that I read the editorial and the article on page 4, titled 'The need for a research co-ordination centre', in your issue number 23 for April 1976.

As you are aware, Professor J. Allen Hynek heads the Center for UFO Studies in the United States, and with the help of several eminent scientists, faculty members, technicians and countless others is studying the UFO phenomenon on a global basis, 'UFOCAT', the electronics computer operated by Dr. David Saunders is a catalogue of ufo reports. To date it has an entry of 85,000 ufo reports on file.

In November 1974 Professor Hynek requested us to organise an Australian Co-ordination Section (ACOS), to coordinate all Australian sightings. The way ACOS operates is as follows:-

All the major scientific ufo organisations in Australia, and several independent investigators were invited to participate in a programme. Rather than each individual organisation forwarding their ufo reports to the centre in the US two (2) copies of all unidentified reports are forwarded to ACOS, where one copy is processed and forwarded at regular intervals to the Center. The second copy is retained by ACOS, filed in chronological order to form a central library of ufo reports in this country, which is available to all our member organisations and individuals. The copy which goes to the Center is then fed to UFOCAT, to be compared with other reports from all over the world.

ACOS publishes a Bulletin every three months, in March, June, September and December, which contains news from the Center, news from Australian organisations articles of interest to the investigator and researcher and a summary of ufo sightings from around the country. Credit is given to the organisation from whom the report is received. The ACOS Bulletin is an information publication, and is designed to stay clear from the newsletter type publication, as this is left to individual organisations. Inter-group news is usually condensed into least possible space and is only carried at the request of an organisation to notify other ACOS members.

The articles which appear in ACOS Bulletin are supplied by researchers and investigators belonging to our member organisations, as well as from our scientific consultants.

Until ACOS was formed each organisation worked independently, with the occasional exchange of information taking place. This has by no means changed. Each organisation is STILL independent, except information is now centralised at ACOS, from where each organisation is able to draw information it may require to carry out research work. In March 1975, after discussion with several UFO investigators, we decide to look at the possibility of holding a nationwide conference, by calling together two or three representatives from member organisations. The idea was received enthusiastically and the general opinion was that such an event was long overdue. The conference, known as UFOCON ONE, was held over a three day period in October 1975. Papers on investigation techniques, research ideas, and proposals for combined efforts were presented, 23 people attended, including four scientists, representing 90% of our member organisations. This number was ideal for the type of meeting, held informally at Terrigal, N.S.W. CONT. PAGE 3

CONTRIBUTERS THIS MONTH: Bufora, Contact, Bufora Yorks, Mufora, Muro, Nufois, Rigap, Ufora Staffs, Graham Barker, Ian Crasswell, Bryan Hartley, Derick Shelton, ACOS  
 NORTHERN UFO NEWS JENNY RANGLES

NUFON:: The Northern UFO Network is a communications and liaison medium for independent organisations and researchers in the north of Britain. Northern UFO News is forum for news, ideas and opinion. Opinions herein expressed do not, necessarily, reflect those of the network as a whole

EDITORIAL ADDRESS:: Jenny Randles 23 Sunningdale Drive, Irlam, M30 6NJ

NEWS NOTICES

:: We are pleased to announce that Bryan Hartley has taken over the role of NUFONs foreign liaison officer. Already he has built up excellent contacts with many of the worlds leading organisations and more will follow. He has also planned the implimentation of a foreign data resource centre which will be operable shortly for enquiries from NUFON associates, and he will be building up an extensive library of foreign publications for your use on research work. Thanks are also due to Ian Cresswell, of Morecambe, who is taking of the job of data transfer between NUFON and the Center for UFO Studies in the USA.

An interesting case, received through this foreign liaison programme, concerns a contact case from the Scandanavian english translation newsletter UFONYT. It occured in 1957 in Jutland, involving two three foot beings by the side of a grey oval craft. They wore tight fitting green suits with a transparent helmet with an antennae pointing obliquely backwards. Their faces were brownish.

Material has also been received from Belgium, Russia, Australia and the USA.

:: As will be seen from the enclosed NUFON data sheet the long awaited advisors system has now become operational. Groups are urged to utilise this in important cases. The facts on the data sheet also update other NUFON services to associates

:: The next NUFON meeting is to be held in Manchester on October 23rd. Any nominations for the agenda or proposals for debate should be submitted to the Secretary by August 31st. A draft agenda will be circularised with the next news-letter, though provision will be made for emergency debates at a later date. The meeting will be combined with two lectures, one by Raymond Drake the well known author and another on a controversial ufo theme. More details shortly.

:: Proceedings from the Sheffield convention have now been produced, thanks to the efforts of the publications panel. They are in card cover form and contain much excellent material. Papers included are: WHITHER BRITISH UFOLOGY? (A brief resume by Trevor Whitaker on future prospects for investigation and research), THE UFONAUT AND UFOLOGIST (a general introduction to ufology by John Longhorn of CONTACT UK), MONITORING AND PROCESSING UFO DATA (an important and well documented examination by Bernard Delair of the scope of the phenomenon and how we should go about extracting meaningful results from it) and MOVE DOWN THE UNIVERSE PLEASE, HOLD TIGHT? (an exercise in speculation concerning a most intriguing theory of ufo origins by Peter Warrington). Cost is 50p (which includes postage). Please allow two weeks for delivery.

:: More news is to hand of the BUFORA conference to be held in conjunction with UFOSIS at the Centre Hotel, Birmingham on November 5th-7th. The Friday evening will be devoted to a debate on what research would be done if a large sum of money were suddenly made available. The lecture programme begins on Saturday morning and extends to Sunday afternoon. The main paper (by Ted Bloecher on humanoid research) will be given on the Saturday evening, and other topics already set include photographic analysis, ufo waves and periodicity, vehicle interference and the INTCAT computer research programme. Cost is £6 (non BUFORA members) £5 (BUFORA members). Cheques made payable to BUFORA Ltd., should be sent via the NUFON secretary, from whom further information is available.

:: I feel obliged to point out to people, who seem to have a misconception, that the British UFO Documentation Centre is an entirely INDEPENDANT organisation and that any decision regarding a NUFON policy on cooperation must be made by the groups as a whole at the next meeting (where it is hoped the BUDC will send a representative to answer questions). The remarks expressed at the close of the article in the July issue of this newsletter were PERSONAL editorial ones. Individuals are free to their own opinions, which will not be forced by any NUFON policy decision, and those submitting finance do so at their own discretion.

:: There is an exciting prospect that the BBC will be producing a fifty minute documentary on UFOs for showing in December or January. The producer is the same as for the recent excellent programme on the Loch Ness Monster. The emphasis is planned to be on contact and occupant cases and if you know of any unpublished events of this type please let NUFON know as we are working with Flying Saucer Review on this project.

Such was the success of UFOCON ONE that it was decided to hold UFOCON TWO in Mount Gambier, South Australia, on October 24 to 26 this year, to coincide with the total solar eclipse visible from there.

The most important factor to emerge was that it was decided to pool everyone's knowledge and resources as we all realised this was the only way to make any headway in research into ufology. Another item was the decision to adopt a uniform report form. Such a form was designed and a copy forwarded to each organisation for comment and possible alterations. A preliminary copy of this has been forwarded to Jenny Randles, and anyone interested can contact her. It has been designed to act as a folder in which all investigation notes and correspondence related to a case can be kept.

The main reason for this open letter is in response to the NUFON article in which Jenny suggests a coordination centre in the UK, and I sincerely hope that such a British Coordination Section of the Center for UFO Studies can be set up. However, one word of caution. I would suggest that such an organisation should be COMPLETELY independent of any ufo organisation and that its main purpose be as that of ACOS. We are NOT actively involved in the investigation of ufo reports, such as interviewing witnesses, unless asked to do so by a member organisation. That is, after all, what ufo organisations are formed for. Should such an organisation be set up in the UK I can guarantee full co-operation from ACOS, wherever possible.

(It would seem that one can substitute NUFON for ACOS in much of the earlier portion of this article. Obviously ACOS are unaware of NUFON's function in this region of the UK. Nonetheless, the point is a valid one that such a centre is necessary for the UK as a whole, although this may simply require the formation of a counterpart SUFON and a close liaison between the two. The newly formed BUDC might also be relevant here, although their functions appear to be somewhat different. Certainly it is the cornerstone of NUFON that we recognise independence that we work together, that we pool resources and that we make these freely available to all for research. UFOCON sounds a little like the NUFON Representative meetings though more sophisticated. PERHAPS, such an informal long term conference along similar lines, involving NUFON AND a prospective SUFON would do a great deal for the enhancement of meaningful cooperation in the UK. It is well worth careful consideration since we do not have the enormous distance problems involved in the vast Australian continent. Meantime both BUFORA and CONTACT channel data through to UFOCAT and NUFON is now doing so on behalf of its associate groups. There is perhaps less need for a BCOS therefore). Jenny Randles

#### CORRESPONDANCE:

#### Report Forms:

As previously noted NUFON does not see a necessity for a standard form, in view of the work put in by BUFORA in developing one. Several groups have adopted these (available for scrutiny from Tony Pace at Newchapel Observatory, Stoke). Derek James of UFORA Staffs suggests that they be PHOTOCOPIED. This serves two purposes. Firstly one has two pages and consequently not all the information is lost if one sheet becomes mislaid (as would happen if the double sided original were lost). Secondly, there are two extra blank sides to add further notes on the investigation. Good idea??? Additionally, UFOSIS, have developed their own set of comprehensive forms (similar in many respects to BUFORA's set of seven) I am sure they will let groups see them if interested.

#### Non-Cooperation:

BUFORA's RIC for Scotland was recently written to with a view of trying to forge closer links with Scottish investigators. He replied with news of the demise of the Edinburgh UFO Society due to "the general feeling - cultivated by myself I admit - that UFOs are no more than an atmospheric phenomenon" plus other factors. BUFORA's RIC, Stuart Campbell, goes on to say that "Be advised that we do not regard ourselves as 'an extreme outpost of northern ufology' Scotland being as much in the centre as anywhere else, and from an oil point of view more in the centre." He further adds "In my opinion ufology is not about organisation, activities and networks it is about investigating ufo reports. I am not at all enthusiastic for your network and prefer to work with BUFORA, if anyone. Feeling, as I do, that ufos are not extra-terrestrial I believe it unwise to build extensive organisations which give the impression UFOs are more important than they are." One could say to that if NUFON is extensive what is BUFORA. One could also feel disappointed that nationalism should enter ufology. Surely cooperation is important, regardless of who feels what about the importance of a country. UFOs don't seem to care about country borders. It is a pity that seemingly the only Scottish ufologist of any note cares little about exchange of data and communication.

SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE SHEFFIELD CONVENTION: By Robert Morrell (NUFOIS)

.....  
Having attended the recent NUFON convention in Sheffield I cannot share in the high opinion expressed of it in the NUFON NEWS report (June 1976). Indeed I find myself in broad agreement with Dr. Jack Green who, writing in UFO RESEARCH REVIEW (No.1 Vol.2 Summer 1976) categorised it as a 'flop'.

I would not go so far as to describe the convention in so unflattering a manner for it certainly had some value, however, I do think that what could have been a highly significant event was spoilt by poor organisation, and the failure to find a theme. In short, at the conclusion of the convention I was left with a distinct impression that nobody had any certainty as to what it was all about.

Take this latter point first. The convention publicity material billed it as presenting an opportunity for ufologists to get together with their fellows. This sounds impressive enough, at first, however on reflection the question (What for?) presents itself. I strongly suspect that this was not discussed by those who undertook the preliminary work. Yet had the convention been organised round a specific theme this would have acted as a focal point. Advance OUTLINE material on the theme could then have been circulated to the groups associated to NUFON and a direct invitation given for them to participate. It would have given groups something to think about in advance and perhaps made them take active steps to prepare something to offer at the convention. The lecturers could have been invited to give papers on aspects of the theme, and whilst bearing in mind the need for flexibility should have been set a time limit. In case of lack of discussion a reserve lecture should have been ready. The theme would also have given indications to displays, for it might have been possible for groups to illustrate their work in association with the convention by this means

Now to the organisation. The venue had to be changed at the last minute, so to speak, and the local organisers are to be congratulated in obtaining a new venue in such short time, however, they failed to ensure that a representative was on duty outside the previous venue to redirect people who may not have heard of the closure of the Fiesta Club, and I personally know of at least one person who drove to Sheffield unaware of the change and so wasted time needlessly. The door of the convention was not manned until mid-day and early arrivals had to hang about uncertain of what to do as no Sheffield members were present, nor were any NUFON officials. Only members of NUFOIS wore identity badges which indicated organisation and personal names, thus unless you knew the ufologists in other groups you had to rely on introductions, which were not given if those you knew were as unfamiliar with others present as you were yourselves. NUFON provided no stewards and next to no literature. There was no notice in the entrance hall of the hotel about the convention. I could go on with this catalogue but see no point as I think I have drawn attention to a collection of faults which could all have been avoided with a little forethought.

NUFON is a new organisation and one cannot expect failings, however, I hope it will profit from its mistakes and not perpetuate them. I have, I hope, pointed to some ideas which might aid future meetings if adopted. There is little point in discussing the future of British ufology, as one speaker did, if we cannot organise a convention. Perhaps, because of its nature, NUFON may be hit by difficulties which more authoritarian bodies take in their stride, but difficulties present challenges and unless these are accepted and tackled there is little point in even trying to put an event on.

(I think the points raised are all valid. We must consider these carefully before planning another convention, especially if the public are to be invited. I am sure Mr Morrell's opinions and assistance will be valued in the organisation of the next such event. Meantime the proceedings of this convention are now available - see page 2. EDITOR)

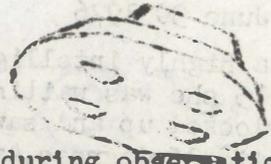
HISTORICAL CASES: (Credit: Ian Cresswell, Bryan Hartley)

.....  
Two reports from 1954 are of interest this month. One comes from the Lancashire Evening Post of March 17th where two men are reported to have observed a white 'cloud' with a flat bottom and a bulge in the middle. It moved against the wind east to west very fast. It appeared high over Samesbury, about 2.30pm. Even more intriguing is the report from Flying Saucer Review Vol 16 no 3 of an aluminium disc seen hovering low over a family's home in Ranton, Staffs. There was a transparent dome on top with two men in blue ski-suits with long hair and high foreheads. The craft was tilted towards the ground and they stared down sternly. The craft shot out a purple/blue beam and flashed away at an angle silently. It circled the house one and half times before streaking off.

CURRENT SIGHTING REPORTS

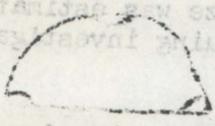
Report 6806 June/July 1968 Anglesey, N. Wales MUFORA Report

The witness, then 25, was camping with his wife in the north west of the island. He spotted the yellow object, size of 1p at arms length, through trees. It was the same brightness as the full moon. Object was seen in the east for between thirty minutes and one hour. Eventually it was obscured by trees. It is possible this WAS the moon, though the witness claims this is not possible because it hardly moved at all during observation.



Report 75/134 July 1975 Rainhill, Merseyside MUFORA Report

Very close to the scene of the alleged landing of May 18 1975 comes a sighting of a pulsing orange light, the size of a pinhead, seen moving northwest to north east, by a single witness who has been a ufologist for ten years. There was a one second pulse between minimum and maximum brightness which varied from bright orange to almost black. The object passed silently from 45 degree elevation to 5 degrees and was lost over rooftops. Duration five minutes. Time 23.00. The witness took two colour slides with a Praktica 'L' camera with f.2.8 Tessar 50mm lens using GAF 500 ASA film at one thirtieth second exposure. The photograph taken at minimum brightness has been lost. The other has been ~~labeled~~ for analysis. It shows a shape as indicated in the drawing above.



Report 7648 April 17 1976 Carlton, Notts NUFOIS Report

A man and wife were leaving the home of the husband's parents at 23.45 when they saw a salmon pink light descending slowly from 45 degree elevation on a bearing of 210 degrees ( $\pm 10$ ). It drifted slowly to the left, as it headed towards rooftops (elevation 20 degrees) where it disappeared. Half way between first observation and disappearance it appeared to stop temporarily and move a few degrees to the left. It was in view 3-4 minutes. NUFOIS made extensive checks on bearings and elevations to ascertain the possibility of a flare from Tollerton airfield (which was closed) or a water sports centre (which HAD been the source of earlier flares which had given rise to sightings in February 1976). Both these locations were in line of sight. No firm identification was possible.

Report 7650 June 21 1976 Comely Bank, Edinburgh BUFORA Report

One witness claims to have seen an object like a shoe-box with the end removed, roughly cuboid and dark in colour. There appeared to be a light shining from the lower end. It was floating for an unknown duration at an estimated 1000 feet. Time 21.30 hours. Investigation proceeding.

Report 7651 June 26 1976 Hull Derick Shelton

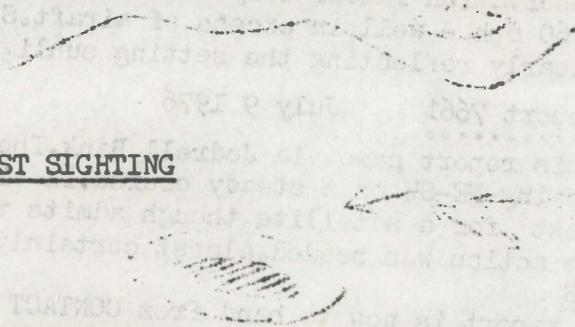
A man and wife in their garden saw three white lights in space of thirty minutes moving fast across the sky between 00.00 and 00.30. Almost certainly satellites.

Reports 7652/3 June 28 & 30 1976 North Wales BUFORA Reports

A young man and wife on holiday in North Wales claim to have had two daylight encounters with strange objects. The first occurred from Cwm-y-glo at 12.55 on June 28th. The object appeared like a long lens with a bulge in middle. It was black against a clear blue sky. It was in view thirty seconds as it passed behind Mt. Snowdon in the south. The car was stopped in the hope of getting a photograph but it reappeared the same side of the mountain, having reversed paths, and shot out of sight behind another mountain too fast to film. On the 30th at 3pm whilst climbing up Snowdon by the side of the railway three objects in formation were seen. They were zig-zagging across the sky. When the sunlight caught one of them it appeared as a silver disc with a red middle. They were in view for about twenty five seconds. A photograph was taken as they flew away, but it is not yet known if anything has developed of them.

FIRST SIGHTING

SECOND SIGHTING



WAVE OF SIGHTINGS FROM STAFFORDSHIRE: Report from UFOVA Staffs

Report 7654 June 27 1976 Newcastle-U-Lyme

At 23.10 Mr Evans and a friend saw a bright white light zig-zagging across the eastern sky. Elevation 45 degrees it was in view 20 seconds. Superficially it sounds like a satellite - but see Report 7657

Report 7655 June 30 1976 Knutton, Nr Newcastle, Staffs

Mrs Pattison is a highly intelligent young mother, working as a secretary for a solicitor. At 08.15 she was waiting for a bus with her young son. He pointed out a jet plane. She looked up and saw a matt black cigar shape hovering in the south east, elevation 25 degrees. After a couple of minutes a further object came from behind in short jerky motions until about two lengths behind. The objects then dropped to elevation 15 degrees and moved silently away at a 'snails pace' until lost in the distance. They were visible for 5-8 minutes, during which time two aircraft were seen. Both of these glinted in the sunlight. The cigars did not. There was no sound and size was estimated as that of a cigar at five foot distance. UFOVA Staffs continuing investigation.

Report 7656 June 30 1976 Newcastle-U-Lyme

A man and wife driving home, saw a gleaming 'needle' shaped object hanging in a clear blue sky at 21.03. It was shining like a mirror. It remained stationary for about ten minutes appearing like a rocket shooting into space which is suddenly frozen in motion. There was a central 'hole' and apparently a dark blob at the top. Ultimately an aircraft flew towards it making a sweeping arc and as it approached the object went high up into the sky and was lost from view. This is reminiscent of the object seen and photographed on twelve slides by Mr Felton of Preston. Analysis of these slides are still pending (see NUFON News November 1975)

Report 7657 July 1 1976 Newcastle-U-Lyme

Derek James and Chris Bourne of UFOVA Staffs had been interviewing the witness to case 7654 and decided to look for the object, which was apparently visible at the same time on several nights. They found a clear spot close to the home, and at 23.05 spotted a yellow/white light moving WNW to ESE. It was first seen at elevation 20 degrees and was lost in haze at similar elevation after 2 minutes twenty seconds, covering an arc of 150 degrees. It was viewed through three different pairs of binoculars, appeared to wobble slightly and emitted a low humming noise. There were several other passer-by witnesses and reports from other people were subsequently received. There were very similar reports from Birmingham and Wolverhampton, which UFOVA are looking into.

THANKS TO DEREK JAMES AND CHRIS BOURNE FOR THESE REPORTS.

Report 7658 July 3 1976 Irlam, Greater Manchester MUFORA Report

The witness, Miss Kathy Preston, was lay flat on the lawn of the home of your editor. Time was 21.05. To the north north east, elevation forty degrees she saw a silver cylinder with curved edges. It moved extremely fast into cloud in the east south east, being visible fifteen seconds. Kathy rushed in for her binoculars and I dashed out with her (I had been inside, for a moment would you believe). On return we searched but could find no trace of the object. By simulating the observation immediately we obtained accurate readings and a calculated speed of 1160 mph - well in excess of aircraft. Several aircraft were seen subsequently, clearly reflecting the setting sunlight. The earlier object apparently did not.

Report 7661 July 9 1976 Middleton, Grtr Manchester MUFORA Report

This report came via Jodrell Bank. The witness saw a white light at 02.30 moving NE-SW on a steady course. In view one minute. He insists it was 'too fast' for a satellite, though admits to not having seen one. MUFORA concluded no action was needed. Almost certainly a satellite.

NB

A report is now to hand from CONTACT UK on the object seen at Lymm on May 13th (Report 7639). At 04.09 two patrolling policemen saw a white circle of light land behind trees. Later an area of flattened grass was found. At first they were puzzled, but a second sighting a few days later was PROVED to be a helicopter and consequently they now believe the first object was also.

NOTE THE NUMBER OF DAYLIGHT OBSERVATIONS ON JUNE 30TH.

SIGHTING NOTIFICATION CARDS

MURO (Report 7649) Date June 6th Time 00.45 Rainworth, Notts. Cigar with white lights at either end and portholes inbetween. Larger than 10p arms length. Two witnesses. Hovered for 20 minutes.

RIGAP (Report 7659) Date July 8th Time 08.15 Haslingden, Lancs. Oval with round top and rim round middle. In view 4 minutes moving NW

MUFORA (Report 7660) Date July 9th Time 01.00 Little Lever, Gtr. M/cr. Object like dog bone coloured pink. Split into sections which piled on top of each other.

NUFOIS (Report 7663) Date July 21st Time ? Hucknall, Notts. Golden saucer shape travelling at great speed over Rolls Royce airfield.

Report 7662  
..... July 14 1976 Macclesfield, Cheshire MUFORA Report,

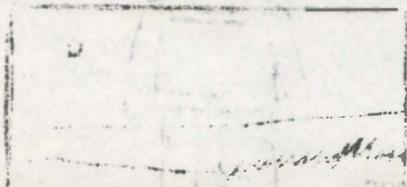
"SHOCK FOR POACHER"

The above was the headline in the Eccles and Patricroft Journal dated July 21st which carried a photo and story concerning a close encounter with a ufo claimed by poacher, Allan Ellis (of Chetham, Manchester). MUFORA tracked him down and have secured the negative which is being analysed by experts. A report on that next month, hopefully, but meanwhile here is Mr Ellis's intriguing story.

At 05.00 he was in the Bollin Valley about 2/3 miles south east of Macclesfield. The closest OS Ref estimate is squares 9471 and 9472. He was after trout (using electric shock treatment - hence the title) when he heard a humming noise, not unlike a swarm of bees. He looked up and saw the object descending at a tilted angle of 40/45 degrees. It then hovered in a horizontal position (edge on) for approximately thirty seconds. It was coloured dark gold (possibly reflecting the rising sun) and appeared the size of a bus. In shape it was not very convex a flattened disc, with a perceptible dome. It came to within 200 yards of the witness. As it hovered it fluttered and wobbled very gently.

THE PRINT

ENLARGEMENT OF OBJECT



His Labrador dog was with him and he is normally very placid, but on this occasion he went ice cold and cowered shivering. All the wild-life around about (something a poacher obviously notices) went very quiet and remained so for five minutes after the object had departed. After hovering the object tilted in one movement. It was now edge on, vertical and facing at an angle to the witness. He took his one quick black and white photograph in this position with his 110 camera. The object now streaked away upwards and at an angle extremely fast. Total duration of sighting was two minutes.

The object takes up approximately one twentieth of a vertical side on the print. The negative is not especially clean, but enlargements have been made to the largest possible size. On superficial examination his story appears to be backed up, but far more detailed analysis is required before any definite statements can be made. He does not appear to show much concern over the negative or print. He has had no physical after effects to this close encounter but his mother, with whom he lives, says that he has been deeply effected psychologically by it.

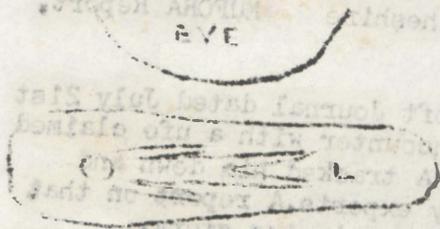
Report 7664 CONTACT EXPERIENCE CLAIMED IN WEST YORKSHIRE

We are indebted for this report to Mr Graham Barker of the newly formed West Yorkshire Research (UFO). After placing an appeal for sightings to initiate their group they received one of undoe interest, which concerned a person we shall refer to as Mr L. It is necessary, in order to protect this person, to simply state that he lives in West Yorkshire and is a well respected man, holding a position of regard in the local authority, and being possessed of reasonable intelligence and financial resources. He has been excessively cautious throughout the investigation, being wary of any form of publicity. The only people, outside of Mr Barker and a colleague from his group, to have interviewed L are Trevor Whitaker of BUFORA Yorkshire (who was accompanied by a psychiatrist who assists his group in such cases).

Since the incidents the character of L has appeared to alter. He has become more nervous and feels that parts of the event are 'missing' from memory.

The first encounter is claimed to have occurred in about 1974 when a tall being (about 6'6" to 7') dressed in a white one piece suit with a high collar came to him as he was lying in bed. He says that he felt a feeling of intense joy. The being just said an hello and vanished. There was a second similar meeting at an unremembered date, when the visitor stayed longer.

In approximately February 1976 the being returned again, this time with a colleague who was similarly dressed but a few inches smaller. Both had longer and larger faces than ours, with ashen grey colouring. Long and thin lips, with a long nose. Their eyes were narrow with pupils like those of a cat. They had only four digits on each hand.



The same feeling of warmth radiated from them, but there appeared to be something troubling them. On asking he was shown a piece of U tubing six inches long by  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch wide. L said that he thought it should be easy to repair as it was only plastic hose. The beings then asked if he would like to see their craft. He affirmed this and was asked to lie flat on the bed with

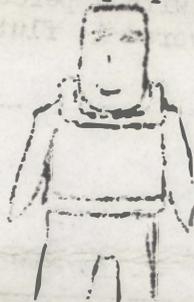
#### INSIDE THE CRAFT

toes pointing up and forwards, legs together and arms crossed over chest. The tall being knelt by the left side of the bed and said that L must relax as he would not be able to move after a few seconds. L felt a tingling all over and found it was true. He could not move. Then he felt himself floating up off the bed into space. He felt as if his body were on the bed still. After a few seconds he was under the craft, described as an inverted bathtub surrounded by a golden glow like a fluorescent tube which does not strike properly. Then he entered into the craft through the middle underside.

The next thing he recalls is being on a table in a large room. He felt in an anaesthetised state. There were eight more beings in pairs around him and a big eye like structure, coloured red/purple seemed to be examining him. This is the period that is vague, and the witness almost strained to recall it. He feels

#### THE BEINGS

hypnosis might help restore it. He recalls asking several questions - such as who they were, why they were here and why pick on him. The only one he remembers an answer to is 'Who was the alpha and omega in the Bible' (L appears to be a religious man). The answer was something like 'An insignificant being such as a worm should not ask such questions. A thousand of your years are but a day to us'



L now found himself back on his bed with his two friends by his side. They told him he would not be able to move. The pins and needle sensation returned. They said goodbye and vanished in the twinkling of an eye. Five minutes later the sensation gradually wore off and L was able to move. He has had no more contact.

L claims to be experiencing certain physical after-effects. He has a pain at the base of his skull, behind his right ear and in his abdomen. He also has hot flushes. In response to a question as to how he felt in the craft he said he was terribly frightened and wanted to go home but instead said 'I want to stay'.

The opinion of the psychiatrist is that L is suffering from hypnogogic hallucinations, which means that the experiences were purely subjective. He bases this partly on the testimony of L's wife who was present during some of the events. This is not yet a firm conclusion, being somewhat dependant on viewing the medical records concerning the physical effects. L has no known psychiatric history. Consequently investigation has ceased, at least for the time being, and any further reports will be appended in future issues.

Even if this case is subjective it is MOST IMPORTANT to consider it carefully. It has many attributes familiar to other contact experiences. One might be tempted to wonder are all such cases hallucinatory OR does the ufo phenomenon have a means of controlling its percipients to the point of inducing semi-hallucinatory experiences. Perhaps if one views all contacts cases in the light of this last possibility we might have an explanation for the irrationalities often found in them.

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