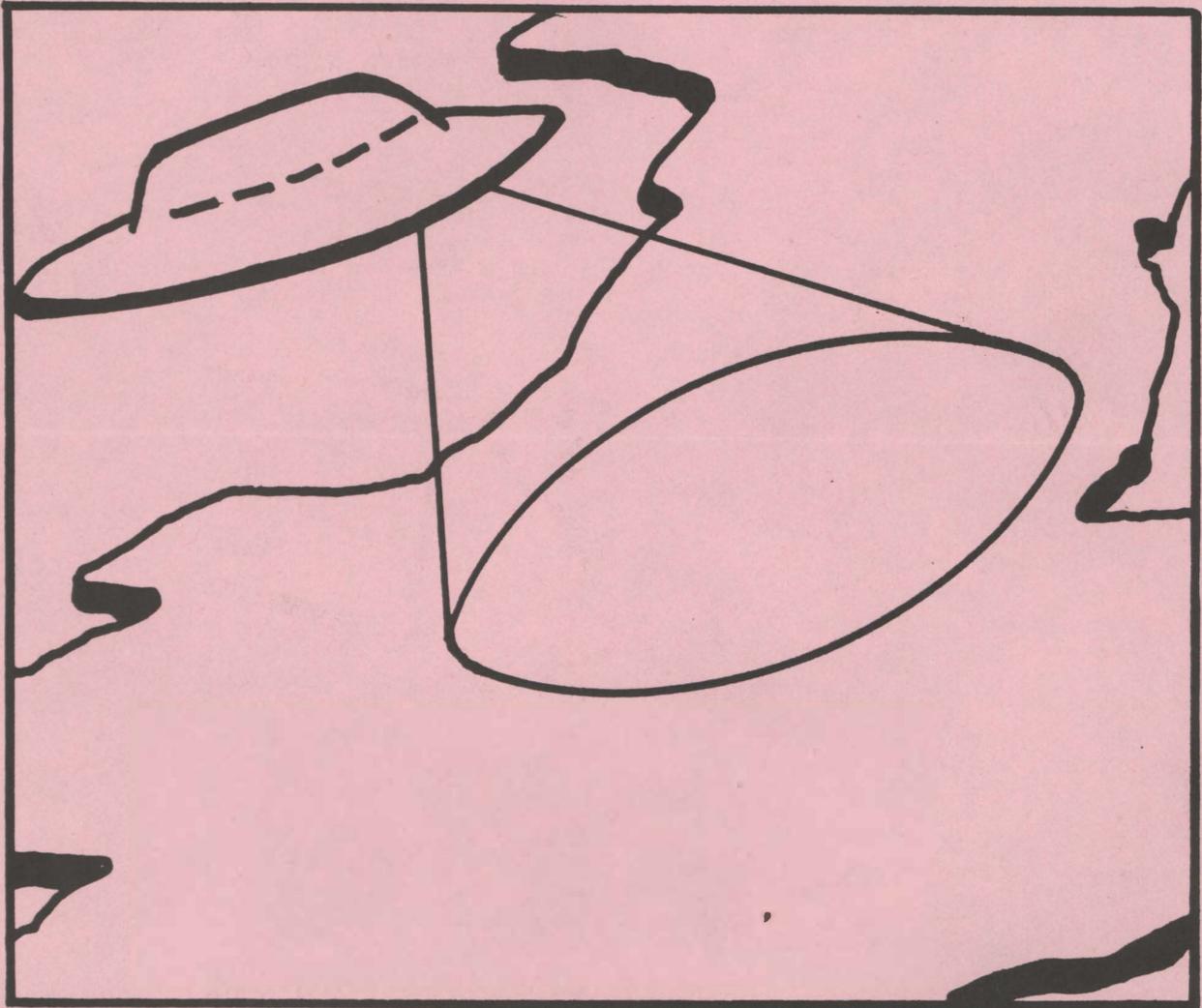


NORTHERN UFO NEWS

(51)



NEWSLETTER of the NORTHERN UFO NETWORK (NUFON)

23 SUNNINGDALE DRIVE, IRLAM, LANCASHIRE, M30 6NJ

Edited by: Jenny Randles and Paul Whetnall.

"NUFON is a liaison system for independant UFO organisations and researchers in Northern Britain. It acts as a co-ordination centre for investigation, research and general information".

AUGUST 1978

ISSUE 51

 CONTENTS: P.2 News Round-Up by David Rees Conferences - one down one to go
 P.3 One Possible Answer - a theory by Derek James
 P.3-4 The Fear Factor - research proposals by Nigel Watson
 P.5-8 Encounter cases from:- Cheshire, Durham, Gt Manchester, Lancashire
 Leicestershire, Northumbria, Staffs, Tyneside, West Midlands, N. Yorks
 Scotland.

Thanks to:- DIGAP, HAPI, MAPIT, MUFORA, SMIO, SUFORS, UAPROL, UFORA Staffs, WUFOS,
 Carol Tounessen & Ken Philips for contributions to this issue

 EDITORIAL:- Ufology - a breeding ground for ego trips?

You know what happens when you cut a worm in half -- you end up with two worms. We seem to have a bit of a problem like that in ufology. Rather than pruning our meagre resources pool we are ever spawning spin-off groups, and the CE3 'boom' where the 'in' hobby of today is UFO spotting is certainly not helping. No doubt you all, like me, have had many recent appeals from eager schoolkids - "Please tell me Miss - how can I go and spot a UFO?" Presumably the best answer is 'with a pot of paint', but of course some of these intrepid newcomers will be the ufologists of tomorrow. So give them the help - if you have got the time - or at least point them in the direction of a reputable group to look after them. (NOT NUFON, since we don't have 'members' but your local group or the established and respected BUFORA & CONTACT)

This is not the problem. The problem is the ever rising number of 'new' groups. Oft I wonder if UFO groups are just a vehicle for ego trippers. That this is both true and untrue is shown by reference to two current examples. One good. One bad.

First the good. The Southern UFO Network - our counterparts have at long, long last finally made it! The first issue of Southern UFO News - published by John Makin (policeman member of the WATSUP group in Hampshire) - is out and the long haul towards coordinating the southern England groups has begun. Ahead lie talks to see how far we can relate NUFON & SUFON (basic premises are already very similar) whilst keeping our regional independence. All the luck in the world, John - and if you want to offer support his address is:- 1 Bladon Close Denvilles Havant Hants

Now, the not so good. The British UFO Society (hosts of the recent skywatch which was apparently going to mean that they would be the FIRST group ever to coordinate investigation on a wide scale!) No doubt you will recall Secretary Ken Rogers in the SUN, February 23rd - "Ten top spotters, including himself, landed in hospital with nervous breakdowns after sighting UFOs and expert writer Ken Rogers blamed the alien spacecraft. He quit the British UFO Society and burned all his files since his illness last year. He added 'None of the people involved in the big investigations during the 1960's is around today'..." (You hear that Trevor Whitaker, Charles Bowen, Gordon Creighton, Lionel Beer, Norman Oliver etc etc etc). Then in the SUN, June 21st, he has had a remarkable recovery, is back launching the skywatch and making fresh irresponsible claims. OK - so the press can misrepresent - but remember that affair over the Adamski saucer being a bottle cooler top in the press? Guess he was not making properly researched and responsible claims then - Ken Rogers of the British UFO Society!

The other day Chairman, Richard Lawrence rang me. He had just discovered that NUFON existed and was rather hinting that we should change our name because it clashed with a new business venture BUFOS are launching. He had not heard of me nor FSR nor MUFOS either. Hardly the world's most informed ufologist. Suffice it to say we shall not change any name and whilst their escapades at selling 'T' shirts, ufo photos and whatever else they offer nowadays, might provide some service by channeling youthful enthusiasm their track record so far hardly does service to serious ufology. Sorry - I hope I am eventually proven wrong - but right now it's true.

NB Jenny Randles & Paul Whetnall are on holiday July 28 to August 13. Forward mail as usual. Urgent calls re investigation to Derek James : Tel Stoke 514124

NEWS ROUND-UP..... David Rees of MAPIT

Hello there! This is my very first 'round-up' feature, and I look forward to producing many more in forthcoming issues, but first off I would like to thank Paul for all his hard work in putting together these items in the past.

Right then - what news have we?..... FUFOR held a mini-conference in Crewe on 10th June. Mark Tyrell tells me that the speakers, Lionel Beer and Tony Pace of BUFORA, were of high quality, but the event was rather let down by poor attendance. CUFORT member Mike Cottrell would like to hear from anyone with information regarding NW MIB activity and unusual happenings. Write to him at:- 8 Barton Rd Congleton Cheshire CW12 3HB. MAPIT had a good article in the North Cheshire Herald on July 7th (headlined... 'Those Close Encounters are getting nearer home') and two more articles are planned in other newspapers. The next issue of SKYWATCH will include reviews of the FUFOR mini-conference and BUFORA's Nottingham conference (written by Norman Oliver). Up north CHRYSIS are having a reshape and plan to produce a new magazine called CHRYSIS 78 (NE Ufology's first mag since the demise of the well respected ORBIT). PULSE sadly had to cancel their public meet on July 8th (again through lack of support).

An exciting plan is under consideration by DIGAP, MAPIT and MUFORA - the three NUFON groups that cover Greater Manchester, South Lancashire and North Cheshire. This is to set up an investigation panel jointly integrating all groups, whilst maintaining individual independence. A sign of the times?

In the recent issue of Ancient Skills & Wisdom you will find many reviews of books and UFO magazines, including PULSAR, UFO RESEARCH REVIEW and MUFOB. This is, to my knowledge, the only publication devoted to reviewing published material. For subscription details write to:- Paul Screeton 5 Egton Drive Seaton Carew Hartlepool Cleveland TS25 2AT. UFOJA, UFO over Jersey Association, are to begin publishing their own magazine this October; anyone with articles for inclusion should write to Dean Preston Hautes Murailles Rue de Samares St Clement Jersey CI. BUDCs Alan West (erstwhile Alan Fossey) follows publication of his ufo primer 'Close Encounters - The Strange Truth About UFOs' with news that the organisation is to be revived. EUFOSG have just changed their journal into a fully fledged magazine called "Earthlink" - the first issue is a very good read and highly recommended. Price 62p a copy from:- 16 Raydons Rd Dagenham Essex RM9 5JR. Electronic Voice Phenomenon is the name of a small group of people looking into any links between UFO sightings and paranormal voices. Alan Cleaver would like to hear from anyone with views or cases that fall into this area. Contact him at:- 12 Lime Tree Ave Old Bilton Rugby Warwickshire CV22 7QT. Peter Warrington & Jenny Randles ask it to be noted that there is a slight delay in publication of their long awaited book 'UFOs: A British Viewpoint'. It is now scheduled to be published by Robert Hale, London early in the new year (about Feb)

Fans of SF writer HG Wells may be interested to know that an LP record of his classic 'The War of the Worlds' has been produced. The difference is that it is a musical version (featuring Julie Covington, David Essex and Justin Heywood ... amongst others) with Richard Burton narrating. (The editors, having purchased this superb recording, would also strongly recommend it - CBS Label 96000). It was masterminded by Jeff Wayne who stated recently, "I found Close Encounters superb, but the film was boring. At the end Spielberg should not have shown us the aliens and allowed us to use our imagination. He answered too many questions" Do you agree?

CONFERENCES One down & One to go...

SUFORS staged their conference on June 24 at the Film Theatre in Scunthorpe and whilst the attendance was disappointing (around 40) and the afternoon lecture programme on UFOs and their sociological implications (heavy) to many there was much to enjoy - including the evening three hour performance of BBC man Philip Jenkinson with a superb presentation of sci-fi films vintage and modern. (This attracted a few more folk, not suprisingly). It was also intriguing to see the 'dismal' movie film evidence provided by the USAF Project Blue Book files - all ten of em! DON'T FORGET the next one - FREE at the Leicester Posthouse on September 23rd with many wide ranging papers (eg photographic evidence, radar cases, temporal distributions, psychic overlap):- Call LEICESTER 826545 for details

The Good (?) News... and the bad (?)

First the good news.... the Manchester Evening News of June 23 tells us 'Wedding Rights for Saucer Society' - apparantly, a society that believes "Jesus landed in North Devon in a flying saucer in the 1950's....", has been given permission to perform marriages (in a garden shed!). The Warrington, Cheshire, branch has become the first in Europe to be registered as a church with their organiser labelled Reverend The association - you guessed it - the Aetherius Society. Who's first down the aisle?

... and the bad (possibly). Remember ITVs 'Alternative Three' - with its abducted scientists and mysterious deaths... what does one make of the mystery disappearance and subsequent strange tranquil death of top organic chemist Professor George Kenner? Missing two weeks in a period of high ufo activity (see news pages) - whilst on the point of making an apparantly revolutionary breakthrough.... mmmm

ONE POSSIBLE ANSWER a theory proposed by Derek James of UFORA Staffs

This is a theory that takes all ufo evidence into its outline with ease. It involves time and its dilation factors and explains; hovering, falling leaf & high speed manoeuvres, the g forces involved, landing marks, radar tracings and more...

Assume that the UFO is a capsule capable of time travel. Its occupant pushes a button for, say, 30 seconds into the past. BECAUSE the planet has moved in these 30 seconds our friend will appear to travel a distance. He may go through a solid wall and hover over a new location. Furthermore, the people at that location (30 seconds into his past) will SEE him. Now, if he decided to alter his time by perhaps 5 seconds, people at this location will see him streak away at an amazing speed - he will be literally 'gone in a flash'! The occupant would experience no 'g' force as he is not moving in distance but in time. In this way he could easily outpace any earth missile.

If now our occupant can alter his $\frac{3}{4}$ position above the earth it would be possible for him to land. Because something did land sometime then traces would be left. He would also be tracked on radar whilst in our time zone - but once out of it he would just disappear! He may also not be able to communicate - just as most occupants seem not to - because if he went back far enough he would not even be born and his speech would sound no more than a garbled jumble of unintelligible words to those seeking to communicate.

I do not propose that all UFOs are time machines, but it is certainly food for thought and, I hope, not just a 'hair-brained' idea.

(One thing does strike me - if he moved back years into the past would not the movement of the earth through space be important - or would it all be relative to Earths reference frame? - EDITOR)

It is the way in which ufology can be explored from so many different viewpoints that makes it intriguing - write to Derek at 10 Bullockshouse Rd HARRISEAHEAD Staffs

THE FEAR FACTOR a research proposition from Nigel Watson of SUFORS

The investigation of witness reactions to UFO encounters can be an aid to obtaining further and more detailed information about the original observation. Richard F Haines, Ph.D (guest at the Nottingham conference earlier this year) has constructed an "event tree" of possible UFO witness reactions and his paper containing this, "UFO witnesses and field investigators" (FSR Vol 21 No 6) is helpful in this context.

Looking through my own files it is noticed that a major witness reaction is one of fear. The reasons for this fear can bring out much new information in the interview of a UFO witness. Regarding these fearful reactions we might construct four categories which help to define the reasons behind these:-

1: Strangeness

Undoubtedly, the stranger and more extraordinary the UFO event under observation, the more the witness might have to fear. UFO event, strangeness can be attributed values by use of Jacques Vallee's "Seven Categories of Strangeness" (UFOs: The Psychic Solution Panther Paperback 1977, pgs 114-121) or from J Allen Hynek's chapter 'On the strangeness of UFO reports' (The UFO Experience)

2: Environment

Confronted by a strange phenomenon the more remote the observer, the more likely they are to react in a fearful fashion. This can be classified by regarding the number of witnesses, locality, time and weather.

3: Witness

A fearful or irrational reaction within a UFO observer might be conditioned by fatigue, illness, depression, drug usage, personal worries and problems or activity at the time of the sighting.

4: Preconceptions

The biggest source of fear is the unknown, or even worse the potential (physical and mental) danger of the unknown. Currently, the modern concept of the UFO as a manifestation of alien spacecraft in our atmosphere can generate several types of fear in the UFO observer. These can be of: radiation, laser beams, abduction etc. Hence, present day preconceptions, especially when they are presented in the media can create specific fears - as was the result of the broadcast of the "War of the Worlds" on the evening of October 30 1938, which caused panic throughout America (thinking the dramatised radio play was reality). References to the observers preconceptions about the UFO phenomenon, both before and after their observation, can be of great interest.

The above categories are only very basic but they can help as a guide in UFO investigations. This can be borne out by looking at typical examples of witness fear reactions. By reference to these a better understanding might be obtained of the UFO observation and its circumstances (and vice versa) EG:-

Summer 1947 North Yorkshire 2am Beam of light from sky

Mr TE Adams 30 yrs old 1 Male witness Sleeping.

Witness got the impression that "he must not speak of this to anyone" and he remained silent about it for 25 years approx.

There are several factors relating to this extreme reaction.

- 1) Strangeness:- a) Beam of light flooding to ground accompanied by strange sound
- 2) Environment:- b) Remote locality c) Time 2am d) Witness's friend asleep
- 3) Witness:- e) woken from sleep by strange sound f) on guard duty at ammunition dump
- 4) Preconceptions:- g) witness had no knowledge of what phenomenon might have been

Here we see several factors. Only he saw and heard the thing - his friend remained asleep (an elite observer). Secondly he emerges from sleep and is confronted by an unknown in a remote locality, whilst guarding an ammunition dump (a situation with many dangers!) Lastly, although he was on duty he did not find cause to report the incident. This was due to the fact that he did not know what to report (the term flying saucer had not yet been coined). He might well have feared utter ridicule. Subconsciously he could have produced the impression of the message not to tell anyone in order to concede responsibility for non reportage of the event. It is also possible that there were two forms of fear experienced by the witness as a consequence of his sighting. During the experience there was the personal danger that would lead to a certain amount of fear. Afterwards there was the fear of what would happen if he reported the event.

Analysing witness reactions can be most illuminating as to apparently mysterious factors within a sighting. Try it with your own cases, as per the example above, and see how many varying degrees of STRANGENESS + ENVIRONMENT + WITNESS + PRECONCEPTIONS = A FEARFUL WITNESS REACTION.

This story is to receive a full UFOIN feature in FSR (UFOIN Ref 7736):-

It is extremely complex, and can here be but summarised. It involves a multi-witness, multi-encounter set of events on the night of May 17 1977. This was, as you will no doubt recall, central to the huge May 1977 flap in the UK and the night before the New Elgin CE3 in Morayshire (see FSR Vol 23 No 5)

The area concerned, East Lothian, is on the South East coast of Scotland to the south of Edinburgh around the towns of Tranent, Granton and Direlton (and others on the shores of the Firth of Forth). There are six phases, involving in all 27 witnesses (mostly independant). The drawings below show some of the things seen.

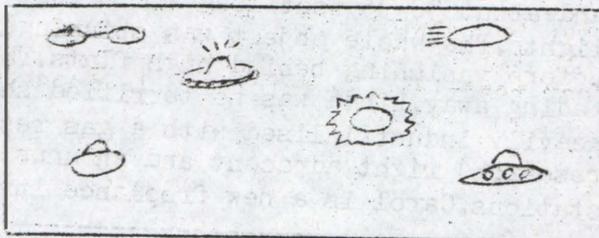
1) and 4) seem to be related to a pinkish oval type object seen moving very slowly northwards out over the bay. Phase 1 relates to events prior to 21.20 and phase 4 to events 21.30 to 22.30. The object was lost over the Ochil Hills on the other side of the bay. The phenomenon seems very likely attributable to a balloon.

2) and 3) also seem linked together, although one involves an object to the south of Tranent (stationary) and the other one moving N over the town and turning NNW over the Firth. Time was about 21.05 and the object is consistantly described as a 'sombbrero hat' with a band of white lights below and a flashing red light atop (cf the object seen in the New Elgin case)

5) Relates to a decidedly independant object seen from a Dr Bernardo's home at Pencaitland (5 miles SW of Tranent) of an oval surrounded by a glowing aura that moved E between 22.00 and 22.10 and seen by several children and staff members. There were other reports from the surrounds of a flat disc spiraling across the sky

6) Concerns a domed disc, silver in colour, with lights on the bottom seen moving N from Ormiston towards Tranent having hovered over a coal tip. Time was between 21.50 and 22.00 and there were several independant witnesses.

Clearly something most peculiar was going on that night, involving several sets of phenomenon (some of which may be explainable). Correlations of the phenomenon on such an extent are quite rare and serve to make a detailed case study essential in this instance.



77/279 December 1977 18.45 Morpeth, Northumbria LOW D CHRYISIS S1

Several boys playing by some allotments saw a white light moving from behind them. It apparantly slowed down a little when overhead and then accelerated away again. This is regarded as probably psychological and the whole affair quite likely an aircraft or satellite observation. No further investigation deemed necessary.

UFO LEAVES HOLE IN THE SKY 77/280 Exhall, Wrkshire MED C S5 Ken Philips

Mrs Edith Lane was staying with her son, over the Christmas holidays 1977. On December 30 at 16.30 he saw the object first approaching from the west and, along with Mrs Lane's daughter in law and granddaughter, they watched it for some 5 minutes. The view is quite open in this direction (to the north) and the object



came to hover over some electricity pylons (about 2 miles away). It was a golden oval, apparantly some feet in diameter, which shimmered as it hovered. It remained like this for several minutes then shot off at great speed heading W then turning NW. The weather was cold and dry with extensive broken cloud. At the spot where it had hovered there was a clearing in the sky several times the diameter of the object. This persisted for some minutes after the object had gone.

7858 January 26 1978 21.00 Hinckley, Leestrshire LCI A HAPI S2

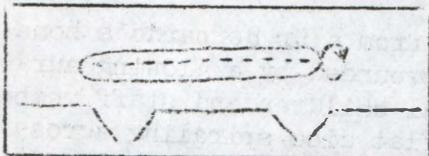
This case would have remained unexplained but for good fortune! It offers some instruction. Two teenagers saw a red/orange ball of light moving SE to NW. In view several minutes and making no sound. Two HAPI investigators saw the same light (yellow/white) magnitude 6 following the same path and at first thought it odd, until it passed directly over and it was realised that it was a jet with landing lights on full hiding the navigation lights. Slight course corrections caused an illusion of weaving from side to side referenced by the witnesses. However, they passed a colour blindness test (as did the investigators) yet disagree strongly on the colour of the light seen.

FRIGHTENING LOW LEVEL ENCOUNTER IN THE NORTH EAST Report by Carol Tounessen

7859 February 1978 05.00 Killamgworth, Tyneside MED A S5

Again, the full documentation on this case will, hopefully, be featured in FSR. It concerns a 21 yr old nurse called Linda who was awoken by a loud noise. The date was around the time of the full moon, probably February 23/24 or thereabouts.

Her mother was awoken also but hid under the covers because the noise was so loud and she thought a jet was going to crash into the house. There were four others in the house, none of whom heard anything. The family dog did not react. No visual



witnesses have been found (except Linda) although an independant witness claims to have heard the sound. When first heard, as a deafening roar like rumbling thunder but constant, she went to the window frightened. As she looked out the noise changed to a whirring

pulsating (even louder). This audible experience had lasted about 2½ minutes. Then a strange object appeared travelling N-S, gliding along between the houses, very low above them. It was like a long cigar tube with a silvery metallic lustre, not shining, and about 30-35 feet long and 8 feet wide. Along its side was a row of 20-25 white lights. The whole object was spinning round. This was in view about thirty seconds before vanishing behind high flats. The noise persisted for a few more minutes, fading away. Linda was so terrified she could not get back to sleep. The area is heavily industrialised with a gas research station (prominent in North Sea Gas research) right adjacent and an unusually high concentration of electricity sub-stations. Carol is a new freelance investigator we welcome to our team.

7860 March 8 1978 19.00 Edith Weston, Lcstrshire LOW D UAPROL S2

Independant reports from a Mr Beatie and Mr Kendall of a fast moving creamy/white light. One report says that it faded away over Lubbenham and the other that it disappeared downwards after a straight flight.

7861 March 14 1978 22.20 Newbold Verdon, Lcstrshire MED A UAPROL S4

Two separate reports of a saucer shaped object. The first had red/yellow/green lights on the rim and moved away after being stationary. The other was slowly revolving clockwise and was making a humming noise. It faded into the distance. ✓

7862 March 17 1978 Skipton, Nth Yorks INST/P A MUFORA S5

The witnesses live in the Greater Manchester area and include an oil representative and a national park assistant warden plus two others. In daylight they observed a silver conical object with something revolving around it moving very high at 2x aircraft speed across the sky. Two colour prints were taken with a Yashica Lynx camera using ASA 100 film. MUFORA are investigating the claim. Note the number of high strangeness incidents on this date (see NUNs for April, May, June & July) - including the Ken Edwards CE4 experience at Risley in Cheshire.

7863 March 29 1978 Shenton & Earl Shilton, Leicestershire
Pulsating oval - independent witnesses - full report from HAPI to follow.

7864 April 6 1978 Barton, Greater Manchester LOW A MUFORA S2

Miss Connor, her boyfriend, nephew and niece were returning by car from ice skating at 23.30. Passing Barton Airport (no night flying takes place as there is no lighting) she observed a brilliant white light moving from W-E. They watched it for 5 minutes as they drove home into Irlam and in the end saw it turn N at 90 degrees, disappearing sharply and suddenly. The apparent size was that of a tennis ball at arms length. Investigators are inclined to think this was an aircraft since at 03.52 on the night before Jenny Randles had attempted to photograph a brilliant yellow ball moving in a very similar direction. The photo did not turn out but a subsequent check indicated that an aircraft landed at Manchester (12 miles south) at 3.55 but it should have been travelling N-S. Of course we all know about the April 5/6 "UFO air show" seen all over the UK.

7865 April 17 1978 Burbage, Leicestershire 20.45 MED A HAPI S3

5 teenage boys playing on a field observed a circle of very bright lights. The circle was 4" at arms length across and contained red/blue/white and green lights that continually changed places around the circle, changing colour as they rotated. They remained constant in brightness and did not pulsate. Magnitude was 4 or 5 and they moved slowly, being in view about 2 minutes before being lost behind houses. They were hazy in appearance and moved NE to SW at a height of about 800 feet. ✓

7866 June 4 1978 Durham City, Durham MED E Catol Tounessen S4

Dozens of witnesses, including some police officers, were witness to a glowing object hovering in the sky. It was a reddish glow of indeterminate shape which pulsated. The apparent size was that of a football. Three pinpoints of light at three minute intervals fell away from the main mass and then the whole thing just disappeared.

THE SOUND RETURNS TO KILLINGWORTH Report by Catol Tounessen

7867 June 10 1978 Killingworth, Tyneside 22.00 MED A S4

Refer back to the low level encounter on P.6 (7859). A mystery noise was heard once more by several people in the village. The Mitch sisters heard it at 21.45 - an eerie humming that started suddenly and stopped suddenly and sounded like it was coming from their garden. They saw nothing and were very frightened. Mrs Burke was in the bath at 22.05 but had to get out to identify the source of a loud electrical drone that pulsated and grew in intensity over a three minute period. It then was at its peak for several minutes and then faded. Looking out of the front window she saw nothing, then she peeked out of the back curtains and instantly the noise stopped. She returned to the bath but the noise began again, although much quieter. After a total duration of 20 minutes it stopped altogether. Meanwhile her husband was walking to the pub. He heard no sound but a man pointed out to him a strange object hovering in the sky. They watched for several minutes as it moved off. It was hemispherical with lighted ends and a strobe effect. Two short trails were left underneath.



7869 June 18 1978 Prudhoe, Northumbria 22.30 MED INST/P C S4

Mrs Patricia Callender, a nurse, along with several neighbours watched an object in the sky moving slowly W towards Hexham. She saw it for an hour. Others for longer. It was a white spiral with a retractable bottom (like a large spinning top). At the latter stages it took on a reddish hue (reflecting the setting sun) and broke in two - although it remained stationary almost. Three photographs were taken of it but it seems highly probable that this was a meteorological balloon.

PS: * This is the 1000th case I have typed up for Northern UFO News since 1974 - JR

Unravelling this story is a fascinating piece of detection. I suggest you get a map and plot locations, times and directions reported of the objects. At 23.05 at Gnosall, near Stafford 4 witnesses saw a brilliant yellow light in the E move to the NW. Meanwhile AA patrolman Raymond Cope at Yarnfield on the M6 saw at 23.10 - moving S-N an intensely white ball. At 23.15 at Tittensor a man walking his dog saw an orange circular light move S-N. At 23.20 at Newcastle-U-Lyme a triangle of lights were seen by a man and wife. One was white and two were yellow. Finally at about 23.30 a man in Congleton observed a white oval light move from the S and chased it in his car. He saw it turn to the north west before vanishing, emitting rays of light from the underside. All events took place June 12 1978, with sizes varying from pea to tennis ball at arms length and speeds reasonably consistent. A total distance of about 30 miles is involved in these reports. Fortunately Derek James, Terry Shotton and wives observed a yellow ball at about 23.07 from Saveley Green moving S-N and they were able to hear the faint whine of the engine. Checking it was found that an executive jet was passing over the area below the airways S-N at that time with landing lights full on. The course fits the observations very well, apart from a few discrepancies. Draw it out and see - its quite educational

7870 June 26 1978 23.30 Levenshulme, Gtr Manchester LOW D MUFORA S3

Jodrell Bank passed on this report from Steven Moran and his wife who, whilst covering up their rabbits for the night, saw two points of white light moving apart. Both were like stars but very bright. One moved off W and just vanished. The other split in two with one accelerating upwards the other moving away W. A relatively interesting LITS observation.

7871 June 28 1978 23.00 Belmont, Lancs CE1 Phisio B DIGAP S6

This interesting case is receiving a UFOIN investigation for FSR. Dropping a friend off at a deserted spot on the fringes of civilisation Ian Broadley saw a strange object over the valley by Belmont. Thinking it might be a reflection he wound down the window and saw that it was an oblong with a smaller dome on top. It glowed bright orange. It looked close, about the size of a cigar at arms length and was moving very slowly. The witness felt his hair stand on end during this phase of the encounter. After a minute the two parts of the object merged into one and it just vanished, but at the exact spot an inverted V shaped ray shot to the ground. This repeated at the same spot 6/7 times with 5/10 second gaps between then all was gone. Weather conditions were not conducive to ball lightning and the Manchester Weather Centre reported no storms in the area. Investigation is proceeding.

7872 July 7 1978 22.10 Knaresborough, N Yorks LOW E S1

Several independent witnesses reported to the local paper that they had seen a bright white light moving W-E in an arc. In view 20 minutes. It was seen on the 8, 9, 10 and 11th also. It was generally agreed by investigators and press that it was probably a satellite and no further investigation was warranted.

7873 July 11 1978 00.40 Rochdale, Gtr Manchester LOW D MUFORA S3

Mr Palmer, out walking the dog, saw a dark red/purplish light moving NNW to NE at 60 degree elevation. Zig-zagged 3 or 4 times quite substantially (estimated it varied 2/3 miles either side of course). Brighter than street lamp but not glaring. Estimated height 10,000 feet.

7874 July 11 1978 01.45 Heaton Norris, Gtr Mcr MED Under MAPIT investigation
7 amber arrowhead shapes moving NE to SW. Full report to follow from MAPIT

7875 July 14 1978 00.00 Hoole, Chester, Cheshire MED Under WUFOS investigation
4 witnesses (two independent) to classic domed disc emitting orange ray with portholes. Full report to follow from Paul Whetnall next month.