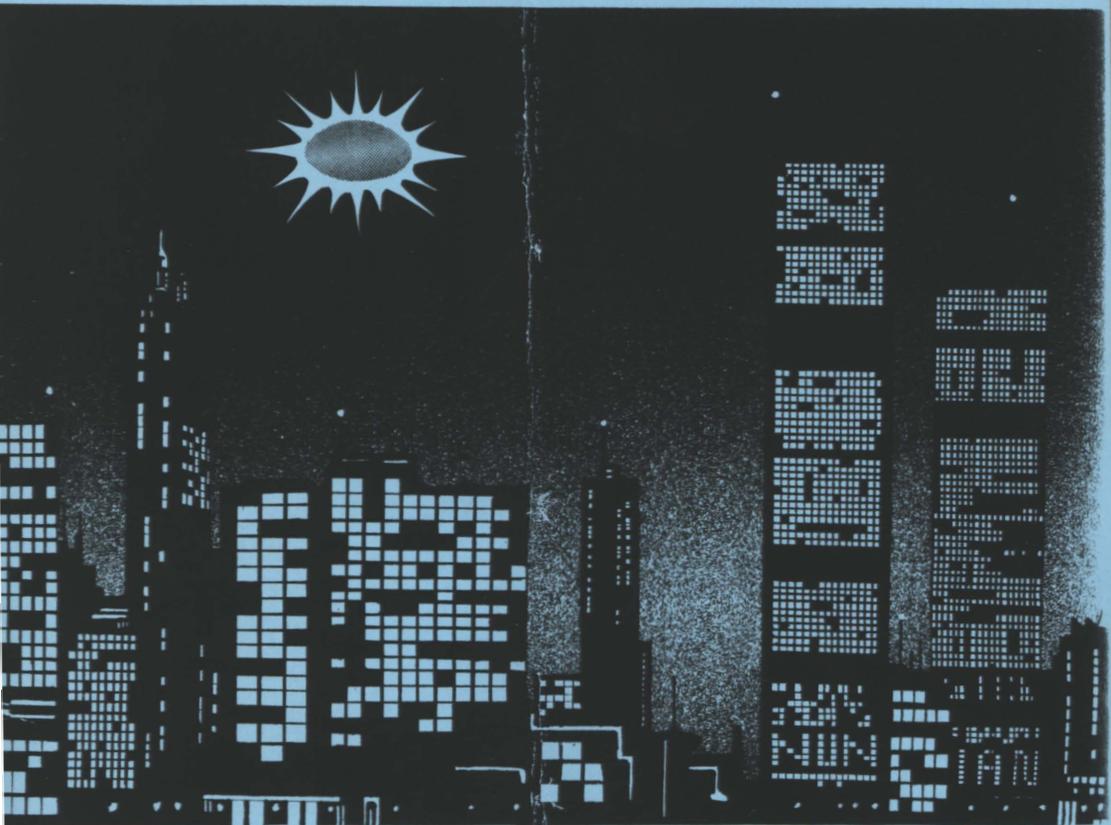


NORTHERN NEWS



Northern UFO News

ISSUE 105

JAN / FEB 1984

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Cover Design: IAN MRZYGLÓD

Address: 9 Crosfield Rd Somerville Wallasey Wirral L44 9EH

1984 Subscription rate:

£5 for six issues

Cheques & pos to NUFON

Published by NUFON- UFO RESEARCH NORTH

Content:- Anticipating the character of an advanced galactic community (p5-6); The enigma of ufology (p6-8); West Yorks historical research (p8-9); 1948 radar / visual (p11); Global cases (p11-13); UK cases from Lancs, Northants, Notts & W. Yorks (p.13-15); CASE HISTORIES:-CEs from Cumbria and Merseyside, CE3 plus images, Gtr M/Cr. (p.16-20) Plus all the usual features.

" A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS. "

May 1984 be the year of the UFO

1984 AND ALL THAT!.... A very happy and successful new year to all our readers. And I am sorry I have to start with an apology. There was no Winter Report. This was due to a combination of factors, some pleasant (a month's working holiday in the USA), some not so pleasant (returning with a bit of an illness). Still not to let anyone miss out, this issue size has been increased to compensate, and all those who would have got the report receive this too, whether or not they subscribe again for 1984. And on that note take a look at the back page.....

J. R. Comments... Recently there has been a minor furore in British ufology over what one might call "Hard Sell" Ufology. At least two respected and senior ufologists have left the fold, partly because of this. In case you missed it, and you probably did, just what is all the fuss about?

In early October the NEWS OF THE WORLD carried a front-page banner headline which reverberated around the world. It told of the Rendlesham Forest affair in a major expose, and followed up with several other articles on the question of UFO secrecy.

I think most ufologists feel that this was a positive step. It put the subject in the fore of public attention once again. It showed that interesting cases are still around. And it highlighted the thorny question of official secrecy. Whilst the newspaper grabbed most of the praise for themselves, ufologists were well aware that they could not have had a story without the intensive efforts, most principally of Brenda Butler and Dot Street, but to some extent of MUFORA in the north, and CAUS (Citizens Against UFO Secrecy) in the USA. However, they will not in the main be aware of the agonies of decision and indecision, the all night phone sessions, the £800 quarterly phone bills, the enormous expense accounts, and the incredible three year struggle to get to the truth of this case.

Looked at in that context perhaps you can feel for those involved (especially Brenda and Dot - upon whom by far the heaviest burdens have fallen) when it was learnt shortly after the BUFORA congress, in late August, that the media knew all about the case. Let's face it, this was not exactly difficult. It has been in PSR, the Unexplained, this newsletter, and was babbled about incessantly at the congress when journalists mingled freely amongst the crowds.

Of course, it was never the intention of the investigation team to break the story in the press before it was ready. Indeed it is so complex and full of major contradictions (such of which was not brought out by the newspapers) that the two girls had already begun work on a book. This will in fact appear later in 1984, and will hopefully provide a fair reflection on this exciting, if damned irritating, case. But what were we (and I say we, as I do not hide my involvement in the investigation) to do when faced with the premature and probable botched-up publication of the case by the British media?

The answer was an extraordinary one. We opted for "Hard Sell" ufology.

You should first of all appreciate that UFOs are something integral to human consciousness in the eighties. That being so they are fair game for use to make money. Serious UFO books on the whole do not do this (although more sensational ones have some success). But one need only think of CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND and ET (which whilst not strictly a UFO film has been such a hit, largely because UFOs have culturally trained society to yearn for extraterrestrials). The director of these films, Steven Spielberg, made millions out of them. And he relied a very great deal (especially in the first film) on the product of our labours. So real was the film that Allen Rynek's publishers were able to legally consider it a film of his book (THE UFO EXPERIENCE). A decision that I know had serious consequences, which for Allen's sake I will not discuss. Without ufology the film could not have happened. Without ufology the film would not have made millions. But what did ufology get out of it, apart from a few old cases? Financially almost nothing, is the sad truth.

The reason is simple. We lack a commercial attitude to our subject. We fail to

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see and to use the power in our hands. This is because we care about truth, not about big bucks. Because, in ufology, we regard ourselves as amateurs and not as professionals. I am not suggesting we wholly abandon that approach, but there is room for a bit of a move in the other direction.

In the past we have let the media rip us off. There is no other term for it. Not only do we let them misrepresent us, but they take all the commercial benefit. That it is commercial can be proven by recalling all the advertising you have seen that features UFOs. "The Planet Zanussi", groceries from "Out'a Mace" and the ill-fated launch of Central TV, remind us that these who use promotion as a way to make money see UFOs as useful tool in their repertoire.

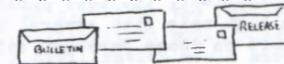
And so this lesson was learnt. The team did not give the story away. We worked very, very hard at negotiating its controlled release. Controlled, in the sense that the story had to be presented correctly after full investigation. Controlled, in the sense that some recompense (not profit I stress) was paid the investigators. These were, of course, special circumstances and a special case. But the principle might bear contemplation.

We are in a situation where the obtaining of government backing, or science research funds, are a million miles away. If we are to do serious work we need money. Maybe we have overlooked that fact, as well as one source where money seems to proliferate.

Let me add I am not expressly recommending this course of action. If we all went out now to try to get what we could from the media it is likely they would quickly lose all interest in ufology. It has to be done cautiously and in moderation, if it is done at all.

Naturally, it is difficult to overcome our inherent desire against commercial attitudes such as this. And there are some I know who strongly feel this would be a mistaken direction to take. Let us open up a debate. Send in YOUR views.

NEWS ROUND-UP



:: Organisational changes head the news this issue. Our sister organisation UFO RESEARCH MIDLANDS have a new sightings coordinator (who is also BUFORA RIC) He is:- Clive Potter 5a Empire Rd Leicester LE3 5BE

Graham Hall, former coordinator, has relinquished some duties but remains with the group. UFORM have also absorbed the long standing Leicester group UAPROL along with its chief investigator John Bardens. This means they now operate the famous "Mobile Investigation Unit" and become one of the best equipped on-site teams in the UK. If you ever need to borrow something you know who to see...!!

Meanwhile, MUFORA have gone through some changes, although the group is still in existence much as before. Peter Warrington, its chairman for over a decade (surely one of the longest serving people in the same job?) has decided for personal reasons to resign. He and his wife Rosalind remain MUFORA members but not in the forefront, concentrating more on personal research. However, they will not be lost to ufology and I am hoping they will be persuaded to take a more active role in the production of this magazine. The new coordinator of MUFORA is long standing member and experienced investigator, Peter Hugh. Contact:- 6 Silsden Avenue Lowton Nr Warrington Lancs WA3 1EW (T: Leigh 604265)

:: Over in Yorkshire the West Yorkshire UFO Society have also been expanding. The Leeds UFO Group have joined forces with the larger body and a bi-monthly internal newsletter is issued. If you are interested in seeing it write to:- Nigel Mortimer 33 Green Lane Addingham Nr Ilkley West Yorks LS29 0JH

:: Arcturus Books (263 N Ballston Ave Scotia NY 12302 USA) have a new UFO catalogue out. Amongst the new items is the updated 1983 MUFON investigators handbook. At £6, plus post, its 161pp, edited by veteran Ray Fowler, an excellent

value to all working investigators. There is a super new section on regression hypnosis which a few people I know ought to be reading! Why not send for a list.

A new book service with a difference is ALPHA BOOKS. They specialise in very old works in the folklore, esoteric, myths & magic vein. And they will search out books for you. A free Winter catalogue is available from:- Tony Maddock 60 Langdon Park Road LONDON W6 5QG (Tel: 01-348-2831)

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FOR YOUR PERUSAL:-
Major articles elsewhere

FSR Vol 29 No 2 (£7.50 pa... West Malling, Maidstone, Kent ME19 6JZ)
Better issue than most of late with some interesting international cases from China, Canada, USA, France, Sweden and Russia. Also Omar Fowler report on a 1983 British Abduction where the aliens threw the witness back. He was told he was too old! Plus an editorial about the Rendlesham Forest case.

MAGONIA 14 (£2, four issues, 64 Alrie Ave New Malden Surrey KT3 4JW)
Ian Ridpath's privately circulated paper on the Rendlesham case is published. Should be read by all interested in the event. It summarises his reasons for concluding the case can be explained (as stars, lighthouse beams and rabbits!) Despite how it sounds, he does provide a strong case to be answered.

BUFORA BULLETIN 011 (In BUFORA Subscription, £12.50 pa, 30 Vermonst Rd London SE19)
Becoming bigger and brighter each issue. This has an in-depth look at the congress with summaries of all the many important papers that were given.

PROBE REPORT Oct 83 (£1.05 from 16 Marigold Walk Ashton Bristol BS3 2PD)
A tragic loss to British ufology to see this go under through lack of support. Undoubtedly the best publication in the past few years it at least goes out on a high note with several varied articles, including the latest and most definitive word on those "mystery circles" down south. Come back Ian - we need you!

UFO RESEARCH REVIEW Vol 8 No 1 (50p from 433 Meadow Lane Nottingham NG2 3GB)
Whilst a pale shadow still of what it once was this issue contains a response to an earlier article of mine where I sought to explain the Ashbourne (August 1980) UFO event as a 'gliding' aircraft. Some useful material is included in refuting this proposition. The case appears to remain unsolved.

YUFOS JOURNAL Vol 2 No 5 (50p from 1 Wharfside Ave, Threshfield, Grassington York) 36pp for 50p plus post (or £4 for a six issue sub). Not bad eh! This duplicated magazine of the Yorkshire UFO Society (who call themselves - probably rightly - the fastest growing UFO study group in the UK) is always packed with detailed reports on local cases. This issue there is more on the famous Cracoe Fell photo which YUFOS still regard as the most important photo ever taken in the country.

West Country UFO News 9 (£1 for 4 issues, 17 Wilkinson Rd, St Budeaux, Plymouth)
Excellent value here too, for the local magazine that covers Devon & Cornwall UFOs. This issue an interesting and useful article on interviewing techniques.

UFO RESEARCH AUSTRALIA Vol 4 No 1 (PO Box 229, Prospect S.A 5082...E Aust 18 pa)
Marvellous to welcome back (after a near collapse) Australia's finest UFO mag. Apart from cases and news this super glossy publication (put together by the top researchers in AUSTRALIA) is attracting excellent overseas articles too. Here William Spaulding puts the cat amongst the pigeons by proposing that abduction cases are staged set-ups by very terrestrial forces!

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BOOK NEWS...

Nothing really new to report on, but PHYSICS AS METAPHOR (Dr Roger Jones, Abacus p/b, £3.50, 258pp, 1983) is worth a look. A revolutionary way at examining the structure of matter and new physics, trying to see if the paranormal can be made normal. I am not sure he always makes sense. But it is different.

BOOK NOTE...

In the first chapter of "The Pennine UFO Mystery" (Granada, 1983) I made an error which has been pointed out by Peter Rogerson of MAGONIA. George Adamski died in April 1965 and not 1964, as stated, and so the proposed time-links are entirely spurious. Apologies are offered.

However, it remains true that the George Adamski / Zigmund Adamski / Thomas Mantell cases have "coincidences" linking them. Which may, of course, mean nothing. But I cannot resist adding one little anecdote.

After publication of the book a UFO researcher from Yorkshire wrote me with assorted criticisms. We have corresponded a few times since. He lives in Tingley, the same small village in which the unfortunate Zigmund Adamski resided. The investigators name?... Well, what else could it be but Mantell!

Inidentally, whilst in the USA, I attended a Larry Arnold lecture on Spontaneous Human Combustion. He referred to the strange death of Zigmund Adamski as a possible example. Arnold suggested that the burns occur at ley focal points and that a noted symptom of the onset by survivors was a tingly sensation. I had to smile recalling that Adamski came from Tingley and was found on a coal tip near the main road on which Alan Godfrey had his "connected" abduction. That road being called BURN LEY road!

ATTEMPTING TO ANTICIPATE THE CHARACTER OF AN ADVANCED GALACTIC COMMUNITY

By William Dillon

Such is the age of the universe and the galaxies within it that it may be reasoned that any civilisation arriving on the scene at an early stage in the life of a stable galaxy would, by now, and by earthly standards, be a "Super Civilisation".

Soviet Astronomer NS Kardashev has attempted to structure the character of potential alien societies as follows:- A TYPE 1 civilisation would possess a technological level similar to our own. A TYPE 2 civilisation would have the ability to harness the entire radiation output of its parent star. And a TYPE 3 civilisation would have access to the power comparable to the luminosity of an entire galaxy!

It can be seen that an early galactic arrival which is now a Kardashev Type 3 civilisation could, if it wished, have imposed its politics upon later arrivals throughout the galaxy. This, of course, assumes that the Type 3 species is capable of direct interaction and has achieved star travel to a high level of competence.

It will naturally be aware that its personal character will appear "exotic" to many lesser species it might visit. A most interesting situation thus develops. Alert to the possibility of "culture shock", and other problems gleaned by experience, how would a Type 3 intelligence introduce itself to a Type 1 intelligence such as ourselves? It can be safely said that no matter what suggestions are offered they will, by our current standards, sound like science fiction. But before they become established most innovations do!

Faced then with the prospect of a visit from some exotic Type 3 civilisation is there anything known to us which might conceivably be the result of actions from such a culture? The answer, although usually unpalatable to the conventional pedestrian mind, is YES. UFOs display many traits which could be attributed to a Type 3 civilisation acting in science fiction fashion. I have always found this a quite stunning piece of anticipation by all the liars, cheats and uneducated scoundrels who have challenged science with this UFO nonsense!

Generally speaking, UFO events are short lived affairs. They arrive, put on a visual display, they intimidate and then they withdraw. This "medicine in small doses" approach might be considered as a gradual acceptance exercise, much less damaging in a cultural sense than a forthright approach. The recipients are allowed to become accustomed to your presence at their own pace, in their own time.

direction. It came about a quarter of the distance back towards him and then banked away in the opposite direction, heading out of sight above the viaduct that is a prominent feature of the Acorington skyline. The sighting had lasted several minutes.

The next day RB went to the town centre to meet his brother, but was a little early. So he engaged in conversation with a man, who told him "you should have been here last night". This man had been sitting in the town centre between 23.24 and 23.26, eating fish and chips with his wife, when they had seen a brilliant bluish light moving silently across the sky. RB regards this as confirmation of his own experience, after which he became interested in UFOs.

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OVER TO YOU MS TITCHMARSH...

Case 8311: February 1983 Hamslope, Northants Inv: UFO Research Midlands

When Brenda Butler, Dot Street and myself gained access to the Ministry of Defence UFO department and discussed matters with their Ms Pam Titchmarsh in August 1983 (to be fully reported in Brenda and Dot's book on the Rendlesham case) we were advised that the MOD had ~~not~~ received a report on a close encounter in the many thousands they admitted to possessing. They were all lights in the sky!

Which is interesting, for this case concerns an MOD employee, Ms MB, from this small village which seems to be of great interest, ufo-wise. The sighting which brought MB to our attention concerns an orange globe of light seen moving along a hedgerow at treetop height just a couple of hundred yards from the witness. The story got to the local press (a very garbled version) although MB has no idea how, as she felt obliged not to report it!

On interview it seems that Hamslope has generated case after unheard of case! All the B family state that the orange ball has constantly reappeared over the last four years, in more or less the same place. Mr B reports that one time he saw it climb up as a yellowish sphere, hover stationary for some moments, suddenly light up in an orange flare of some prominence, and then streak vertically from its mid-sky position like a rocket! Numerous other villagers, including police officers, report seeing similar things.

MB then went on to record a startling series of events in the same location, in late August 1980. For three consecutive evenings whilst walking her dog, between 18.00 and 18.45, she had a daylight encounter with the same strange object! This was a dull gray cigar, with a small dome on top, which moved very slowly (30-40 MPH) at low altitude but was totally silent. As it passed directly overhead the dome lit up. It so scared Ms B that she picked up her dog (one assumes it was not an Afghan Hound!) and fled home. On third observation (two nights later) she ran back, got in her car, and tried to chase the thing. As she reached the motorway (M1) she stopped to watch it vanish behind Saloev Forest.

Perhaps Paul Devereux would care to comment on the geological topography of this region of south Northants and north Bucks. It otherwise seems unremarkable. Apart from that... over to you Ms Titchmarsh.

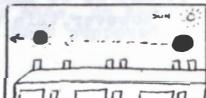
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A LOW FLYING WEATHER BALLOON....

Case 8315: October 14 1983 11.25 West Bridgeford, Notts

The lady witness for this case said she had to think long and hard before writing, and it was only the fact that the Sunday Mirror reported David Jacobs sighting 11 hours after hers that persuaded her to send me details (anonymously). However, she includes a full report and numerous sketches that give concise and relevant information.

It was a bright sunny day with a strong wind from the SW. The object was moving with the wind, heading NE. At all times it looked flat, with no 3D effect, and was matt black and very circular. It moved in a straight line, rising into clouds and



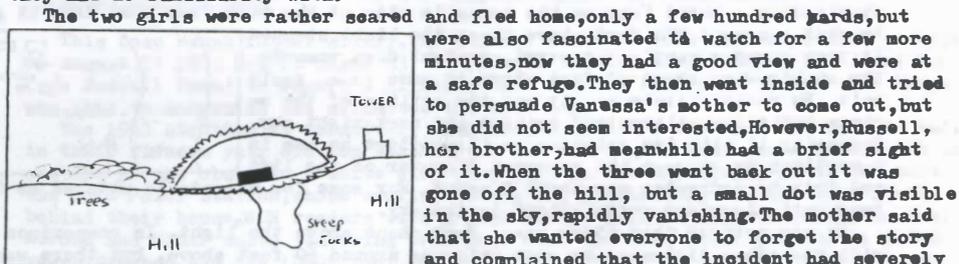
flashing white and red at times. In size it was very large (she draws it in comparison with the sun and it is 4 times as big!) She says she felt sure that it was a weather balloon, but found it hard to imagine one flying so low (only a few feet above the rooftops opposite). It seems quite certain that it was a balloon, but the flashing described equates so well with the daylight cases referred to last issue (see page 13, NUM104) that this could be yet another sighting of those pesky fairground balloons!

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AN 'INVISIBLE' LANDING BESIDES DRACULA'S CASTLE Report by Nigel Mortimer

Case 8314: September 28 1983 20.05 Steeton, West Yorks Level A CEI Invstgtn

Three children are involved in this report, Vanessa (aged 9), her brother Russell (12), and her friend Rachel (11). They had been playing with a torch and were about to go home as it was "call in" time. Vanessa was shining the torch at Rachel, who stood a little further up a slope, when Rachel told her to stop and point it at the sky. Looking beyond the beam they saw an enormous object, seemingly on the ground beside a tower on a hillside around a quarter mile away. A debate followed as to whether the torch was causing the light, but it persisted after this was switched off and they realized this was something they had no familiarity with.



upset the children. Russell would not go to bed alone for days afterwards. She was positive about the apparent sincerity of her children.

Descriptions of the object vary slightly, but all three agree that it was a very large semi-circle or dome (one description was like that of a "protractor", a familiar instrument to schoolchildren). The glow was emerging from it and was lighting up the surroundings of the hills, between groups of trees that allowed a size estimate of several hundred feet diameter. They also agree that a small "square" was cut out at the base. When first seen the sky was visible through this, implying it was a section cut away from the object. But from their vantage point at the house this was filled with a red glow. They also saw a greenish hazy aura that surrounded the dome. Russell (perhaps imaginatively) says he saw a V shape in the top and a spire emerging from this. The girls did not see this.

Nigel Mortimer's investigation shows that the object was apparently beside a local monument known as Jubilee Tower, which he says looks like Dracula's castle! However, there are no signs of any physical traces and the darkness makes it unclear whether a real landing is involved. No other witnesses exist either, which is curious as the hill is in plain view from a very busy hospital and there would have been many potential observers at the time of night involved.

Nigel checked various options, but was able to rule out aircraft and the moon rising over the hill. However, there is some chance that a helicopter was present and he raises the interesting speculation... "we may have had an initial sighting of something that looked odd at first, but due to some unknown factor the resultant object became exotic... we should look at this in the light of Jenny Randles's OZ Factor".

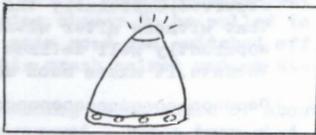
The point is well made and highlights what I think may be a productive way of developing the OZ Factor research. Peter Warrington and myself have been speculating on just such a concept, in a book we are currently writing.

About 192... Now married, and living at a different St Helens address, DB was witness to a LITS observation. Parking his car he saw a bright light moving east to west which stopped for about five seconds and then moved off south. He kept a small telescope in the car and through this the object looked diamond shaped.

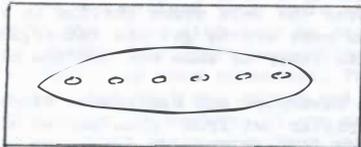
This could, of course, have been an aircraft again, distorted through the lenses.

About 1974... Now in Parr, DB was again witness to a strange event when he saw an object like a revolving fairground ride over large open land by a sewage works. PB's brother lives on a house that overlooks the land and later spontaneously remarked that he had seen something. When comparing notes they became convinced they had both seen the same thing.

July/August 1982... During these months the family saw a spinning, flashing object late at night, which was often viewed for several hours and at times was left whilst still there. It was at times obscured by clouds and at other times "shot off" at speed. It was in the NE. They did consider that it might be a star, as it reappeared night after night, but on July 27th they became convinced it could not be what they saw it for more than two hours as a blue/green top shaped object with a white light on the upper surface and a row of portholes on the underside. It is hard to see how the various quite complex accounts they give of this "object" can be related to what must surely be the truth (that this was nothing more than a bright planet). But it no doubt speaks volumes about the way the family are capable of hyper-imagination. Peter Hough rightly asks how it is faintly tenable that such a display, night after night, should produce no other witnesses in such a built up area, to which one can only speculate that everybody else did see it but knew very well what it was. This leaves the question begging as to why this family should see the same stimulus as spinning-top objects, with portholes, that emit smaller lights and flash across the sky!



August 14 1982... This is actually the most important observation claimed by the family. PB and her husband were up late watching TV when at 1.10 am she saw a bright light through the window, which caused her to rush over to it and cry out.



DB came over and both watched a lozenge shaped object slide into view, in a gap between two rows of houses. When DB saw this he rushed off for his telescope and returned with it in a minute or so. By now the whole cigar shaped object had come into view, spanning the large gap between the rows. DB was witness to the final phase of the sighting as the object rose at a 45 degree angle, vanishing into the night sky, heading SE. His wife had fled terrified to the back of the room, convinced it was going to "take up" one of the houses opposite, so low had it seemed over the rooftops. DB says he could plainly see a line of portholes on the object.

What makes this sighting so interesting is that the family appear unaware of the other supportive sightings on the late night of August 13/14 1982. Readers are referred back to the detailed report in NUN 100, particularly of the Lydon family from Abram, a town about 10 miles from Parr. Their description is certainly similar. PB and DB are sure of the date because they knew the second (1983) sighting was on the anniversary, the same night one year later.

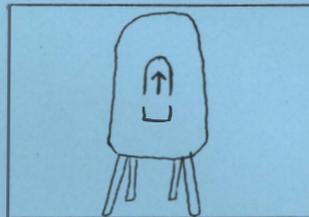
Upon questioning (although with some reluctance) PB admitting to being psychic. Not only does she claim precognition, but has often seen 'spirits'. She says that she sees dead people (who look real) and these prove to be relatives of those she sees them in association with. However, she has consciously blocked her ability (although she thinks she could resurrect it at will). This is since she and her husband became committed Christians in the mid seventies. This same move caused DB to give up his good job with British Aerospace, where he was involved in the building of weapons. PB has never regarded there to be any connection between her abilities and the frequent UFO observations of the family.

TWO EXTRATERRESTRIAL VICARS AND A MOTORBIKE Report by Ron Sargeant, MUFORA

A CE3, involving a landed UFO that is remarkably familiar, and strange alien substances left in its wake. It sounds too good to be true, and maybe it was!

ED, from Cadishead, Greater Manchester, wrote to BUFORA to describe an event he claimed took place on the banks of the Manchester Ship Canal one night in January 1983. Ron Sargeant, who lives in nearby Irlam, took on the investigation. However, after five visits to the man's house he had to give up. On each occasion he was greeted with the tale that ED was out. The man's wife and children (who live in crowded, poor conditions with their parents) were of low social order and standards of behaviour. On each visit Ron wastold that ED would be contacting him. An R1 form was left, along with Ron's phone number, all to no avail.

This is the story ED had to tell. A friend from Salford had just delivered a second hand motorbike to him, at around 9pm. ED wanted to try it out immediately but it had no tax. So he pushed it to the canal banks and propped it up on the stand. At this point he decided he needed to go to the toilet and so he went behind some



nearby trees. Two minutes later he emerged from the trees to find two figures stood over the machine. He shouted and swore at them, thinking they were either going to steal it or do it some harm. But then as he got closer (they have merely ignored his shouts) he became rather ashamed because he thought they were vicars. They wore dark gray or black suits with a white collar on top. ED says he froze at this point because he realized they were both absolutely identical in physical appearance. They smiled at him and continued what they were doing, stroking the seat of the motorbike in perfect time!

At this stage of the sighting ED describes OZ Factor effects, saying that his memory became distorted. The next events must have only taken moments, but seemed to take hours. The men were then walking away from the bike towards an object, on the ground nearby, that ED had not previously noticed.

This was bullet shaped 'craft' about ten feet high and six feet wide. It stood on four girder-like legs which were five or six feet long and a foot wide. But the thing that stuck in his mind was an insignia he claims was plainly in view on the side of the object, coloured bright red. Experienced ufologists will not need telling that this seems more or less identical with the sign allegedly seen by police officer Lonnie Zamora on the side of the landed UFO he saw in New Mexico in April 1964. ED at no point in his account refers to this "S0orro" case.

The OZ factor is prevalent again, as ED says "I never took my eyes off them for a second" but somehow they vanish (he presumes into the craft). The emblem now vanishes in front of his eyes from the side of the craft, which slowly and silently rises until at a height of around 20 feet. It then "in a blink" is gone from view. He waited ten minutes before he went to the bike and pushed it home. Under the light he found part of the leather seat ripped off, the petrol cap missing, and silvery powder all over the seat. He preserved some in a plastic bag (this was sent with his report to BUFORA) and washed the rest off. Soon after he decided to get rid of the bike and try very hard to forget the story. He told nobody about what had happened, but found it played too much on his memory and so decided to write in desperation to BUFORA.

The case has an air of credibility about it, which is evident to any reader of his letter. But Ron's total lack of progress in getting to see him is puzzling. He regards it as suggestive that ED had made the story up and was now scared of being discovered. But perhaps, after the first visit (when he was genuinely out), he was forced to explain to his wife why he had not told her about his 'adventure', and the end result was a decision not to get involved. Either way it is hard to see where to go next.

Ron inspected the area and found tank structures on the ground adjacent to a canal bank distillery that look very like the Woraft ED describes. There are also a number of chemical factories in the immediate location from whence the powder might have come. This powder was subjected to preliminary chemical analysis, which showed it to be a compound with a magnesium or aluminum base, akin to fingerprint powder or paint pigment. A full costly analysis was not deemed necessary.

