

NORTHERN NEWS

UFO

135

FEB 1988



NORTHERN UFO NEWS SUBS: £5 for FIVE
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from:- Cheshire, Cleveland, Derbyshire, Durham, Leicestershire, Lincs, Merseyside,
West Yorkshire...CASE HISTORY...The Perfect Abduction? - Hypnotic Evidence
PLUS - STRAIGHT FROM THE MOD...All the facts and figures

NORTHERN UFO NEWS 37 HEATHBANK RD CHEADLE HEATH STOCKPORT CHESH SK3 0UP

J. R. Comments... In late November, Peter Hough and I published what we consider a book to be proud of; 'Death by Supernatural Causes?' (Note the rather crucial question mark). As usual it has stirred up controversy, so I thought I would say a few words on the philosophy behind the friction.

The idea of this Grafton paperback was to take a series of recent cases where the MEDIA had promoted deaths and disappearances, implying they were due to some kind of paranormal phenomenon. We wanted to take study back to source and discover why these labels were attached, how the paranormal research community handled the cases and talk first hand to people who were involved in the events and present the best version of the facts that we could glean. In this way readers could try to 'solve' the riddle themselves and reach their own conclusions. In none of the seven reports do we offer our own opinions, except sometimes to *reject* the supernatural solutions.

The cases examined range widely (from the Scottish nanny accused of witchcraft, the student who allegedly died from Spontaneous Human Combustion and the tragic disappearance of schoolgirl Genette Tate and include several where UFOs were blamed). In the course of this work we made discoveries that surprised us and changed our views on some of the phenomena.

The book has provoked a wide ranging response. Most vociferous was the criticism that we don't say what we believe. Although Peter and I explained why we purposely chose not to do that in radio appearances and on BBC-1s *Breakfast Time* show, there was still a desperate desire evident amongst some interviewers to be told that these cases WERE somehow paranormal.

Frankly that was part of our point. Indeed, Peter and I disagree on some of the evaluations; although we both endorsed the view set out on TV that most of the cases in the book probably have a natural answer, not a supernatural one, and in only one case (try guessing which) do we both feel that there is any reasonable prospect of the 'paranormal' being at work.

I say that, because some reviewers seemed to think otherwise. For instance, the mother of the S.H.C. victim entered into an attack on our work (before she read it) which the Liverpool Echo ran as a front page news story. Her attitude, which we later tried to placate, was that we were conning people into believing her daughter was killed by a super-normal force. In fact, the reverse is true. We were at the inquest. We interviewed all the witnesses. We saw evidence the jury were not allowed to see... but then concluded that S.H.C. was probably not responsible (and clearly say so).

What this section of the book demonstrates, like several other chapters, is that the victim often ends up like a football being kicked around by the various parties, all out to use the story to prove their pet theory, and to hell with the witness. For example, we were rebuked by some sources for dredging up this S.H.C. case - even though it happened over four years ago. We waited for good reasons, and refused to take part in a BBC-2 'Newsnight' documentary they ran just a year after the death. We said then this was ghoulish and premature and we still think so. In the years since, several paranormal books (such as Arthur C Clarke's latest farce and more sober tomes from respected researchers like Janet and Colin Bord and Brian Inglis) have reported the case, not usually with a great deal of accuracy. It was not simply appropriate, but our duty to bring the new facts that we had out into the open, before the myths become embedded as truths.

Predictably, the YUFOS party manifesto, QUEST (8-4), were less than happy with some fairly moderate criticism of their tabloid quotes on the 'Zigmund Adamski was killed by an alien' affair. However, we had new facts here also, and it was important we did so. They include mistakes I admit making

myself, for which I felt that apologies and explanations were now due.

The YUFOS tactics are to restrict information, blacklist people they don't like so they can never see what 'secret' evidence the group has got, then accuse those people of lying because they never mentioned the things YUFOS had hidden from their sight!

Most of you are familiar enough with this behaviour for it to warrant no more discussion; although the 20 odd page review of the book must qualify for the longest and the most egocentric yet, as it states with grand assurance that the Adamski case is the only one which interests this organisation and should interest international UFO research. What arrogance. Is this because it's the only one that briefly mentions YUFOS? Or because it's the only one they can say nasty things about and fling words like 'lies' and 'pure fabrication... and she knows it' as if they were Holy water? What of the two other chapters in the book exclusively discussing UFO cases? Or the highly relevant points that crop up throughout the text?

Judge for yourselves why YUFOS adopt this stance. But it is fascinating to contrast it with an astonishing detailed review in the 28 January 1989 issue of *New Scientist* where a pathologist seems to accuse us of inventing paranormal solutions and bringing in "flying saucers, even when there seems little need to invoke them" because we are "self-confessed 'Ufologists'" (apparently being one of these is now some sort of social disease little short of criminal activity, at least in this medical man's eyes!)

Anyone reading the book with a mind not clamped firmly in a vice will completely understand that the entire point was that these explanations were invented by society (the media, certain researchers and even some scientists). We frequently clear away the clutter of belief and show that the truth probably lies in much more mundane areas. Answers which the reviewer (a Professor Bernard Knight from Cardiff) cleverly hives off from our text and then presents to the reader as if he thought them up. He claims a 'white knight' role as guardian of the faith of 'scientific truth' whilst we were desperately trying to manufacture mysteries out of candy floss.

That tactic is worthy of CSICOP, as is the curio that despite giving the title three times, *New Scientist* never once uses the question mark. YUFOS did the same thing. This suggests a degree of subconscious water muddying. When you have a blind spot that fails to notice something, it is usually because your mental set dictates against acceptance. Facts that don't fit, don't exist. That's the hallmark of the debunker. So our book CANNOT be objective, but a question mark suggests it might be, ergo the question mark vanishes into the sceptics version of the Bermuda Triangle.

Ironically, one of the best reviews was in the Daily Star (honestly!) which at least quoted a couple of the important points from a lengthy interview we gave... AND they did not miss out the question mark either!

On TV I told Sally Magnusson that we regard the book as a new kind of who-done-it (a what-done-it) and you had to work out the culprits for yourselves. We believe them to be not just individuals in single cases, but an attitude of mind which dominates the paranormal. An attitude fully prejudiced against objective analysis and without being willing to accept the mundane or the mysterious, whichever the balance of facts decrees.

This screams from Professor Knight's review in *New Scientist*. Here one line is actually used as a hostile point to make our work only fit to be read, as he puts it, on a "wet Sunday evening... in a bleak midlands railway station". Knight comments; "this (book) is perhaps a little too honest to reach the outrageous heights (or depths) exploited by Berlitz and von Daniken." Quite!.. Still it did sell out inside four weeks. So there is hope.

NEWS ROUND-UP:

:: Whilst waiting for the bumper 1988/89 "UFO World", coming soon, just a reminder to readers that BUFORA still has a very few copies of the second print runs of the enormously successful booklets, UFO World 86 and 87. You can get these in-depth reviews of the years in question (best cases world-wide, news and research breakthroughs, etc) for £1.50 each (or £2.50 for the two) from the NUFON address (cheques/pos to BUFORA Ltd).

:: While on the subject some copies of the 1986 paperback edition of "Sky Crash", the book about the 1980 Bentwaters/Rendlesham Forest case are still available too. At 385pp, with photos, and a new detailed chapter updating the hardback these are on sale from the same address (but cheques/pos to Jenny Randles) at the giveaway price of £1. All prices are UK post inclusive.

:: Even cheaper (FREE - just a large SAE required) is the offer from Ralph Noyes to supply his article bibliography and address list of parties involved in the 'mystery crop circles' research. Very welcome to anyone interested in the subject: - Write to: - 9 Oakley Street London SW3 5NN

:: I owe Eric Morris (Cheshire UFO Studies Centre and BUFORA investigator) a bit of an apology. He has explained to my complete satisfaction how the Sunday Sport came to associate his name with the 'Prince Charles is a lonely alien' farce (this even made commentary from Chris Tarrant and Cilla Black on the ITV New Years Eve 'Review' show as one of the top tall tales of 1988!). He says, the Sport engaged in shameful and disgusting tactics, phoning him at work when he was dealing with a distressed patient (he is a nurse on a special ward) and just inventing the quotes attributed to him. BUFORA Ltd have taken this case to the press council... who have to date been utterly unable to curb this shabby rag.

:: Finally, hands up those who noticed the tragic 'prophecy' in case 8648 (NUN 128 Nov/Dec 1987)? My summary of the IUN case, titled "UFO over the M 1" said of the very low object, the witness "felt it was going to crash onto the road" ... Evaluated as just an aircraft inbound to East Midlands airport, but as the world now knows AT THIS PRECISE LOCATION in January a British Midlands Boeing DID crash onto the M 1 whilst attempting a landing.

:: Sad to report the passing of another US pioneer, Donald Keyhoe, who died age 91 on 29 November. Keyhoe wrote the first ever UFO best-seller in 1950.

CALL U F O: HOT AND COLD RUNNING PATTERN

Readers may recall the 'North-West UFO Line' launched last year. NEMO enterprises offered a 'talking magazine' available to callers within 10/15 miles radius of Manchester. Your editor supplies three different messages per week and you can't run up mega bills... each one is only 3 minutes long. In its place comes 'Supernatural Chill Line', demystifying various paranormal phenomena. Its now available any time by calling 00 77 44 33 11.

The reason why 'Chill Line' has moved from UFOs is because BUFORA and British Telecom have just launched "UFO CALL" - the countries only national UFO news update. By phoning UFO CALL you will hear all the latest gen on UFO events in Britain, with a new four minute message weekly - updated if a

major story breaks. It's the best way to stay right in touch with the hot news between magazines and shouldn't break your bank if used wisely. Half the proceeds from UFO CALL are being given by B.T. straight into UFO research, so by staying in touch you are actually contributing to ufology.

You can't argue with that, can you? More exciting developments are in the offing on this world's first joint cooperation between national UFO group and national phone company. Reports will come from leading British ufologists and aim to 'bring the truth behind the headlines'. It is just like the creation of a nationwide radio network exclusively devoted to UFOs. To get in tune phone FROM ANYWHERE (UK), ANYTIME on 0898 12 18 86.

PROJECT BECASSINE:

I must thank Denys Breyse, organiser of the project, who wanted to supply more information after the editorial in NUN 133. I am sorry I was not sufficiently aware of the details to include them then.

The project studies CE III cases only and has a major computer data base. So far 2003 cases are included and it is probable this work will continue to uncover important patterns. Denys would like to hear from any CE III investigator with new and obscure cases to add to the data-base. And he has supplied a paper and latest results which will be published in the 1989 edition of BUFORAs 'UFO WORLD'.

The PROJECT address is: - 9 Av. St. Exupery 92160 Antony France

DOES THE GOVERNMENT HAVE UFO POLICE?

The following information arrived in a lengthy anonymous letter recently. It could well be a hoax. But I thought you should hear its claims.

The sender says that his wife previously "was living with a man who investigated UFOs". She never knew who he did this for. Seeing a press story about DI 55 (the supposed top secret investigation department) she told the truth ("believe it or not, I have to she's my wife").

Allegedly the boyfriend was "involved in some sort of government affair" about a UFO landing at Fencehouses, Co Durham. He told her "an old lady and her niece had an encounter with what looked like an egg on skids and two alien beings". She thought him truthful, but could not understand why "an ordinary man like him" could hold such a position.

The boyfriend reputedly had "a card in his wallet for UFO research called 'SCORPIO'" and a card with "Department of Defence - Investigation 55" (plus other numbers) on it. She knew this well before the press stories.

One time, they were leaving their flat to go into town for an evening out when "a huge black BMW car pulled up in front of them and a tall blond man put his head out of the window and said 'its started'". Her boyfriend went with him and did not return until 3am. Next day he acted as if nothing had happened at all. This was when she first got suspicious and found a letter with a drawing of the Fencehouses UFO on it. The letter mentioned the old lady touching the UFO, time loss, but had no senders address (it seemed to have been cut off by her boyfriend, possibly in case she found it).

She then had it out with him. He went beserk, saying, "all you have to do is trust me. I am on the right side. You are protected. I have to do this to protect the public. You of all people should understand."

The wife said she believed her ex was "using UFO research to cover

himself and get to the UFO witnesses before the investigators like yourselves and destroying evidence before it got any further". He was well paid, had a flashy sports car and a small, new van. When the black car continued to call at all hours of the night and he refused to talk about it, she got fed up and left.

The letter adds "We do not wish to name him or ourselves because we do not know the consequences." For this reason I have kept certain facts out.

What do we make of it? The Fencehouses case is certainly real. It happened in September 1976 and we know all the details cited. However, so far as I can tell the fact that the younger woman was the first witness's niece has not been widely publicised. It isn't in the report of the case in "UFOS: A British Viewpoint". There are also strange reasons why this case was never properly studied and clear evidence the witnesses WERE silenced. So judge for yourselves what this might mean.

FOR YOUR PERUSAL: -

Major articles elsewhere

I am pleased to inform that the reports of FATE's death were exaggerated. An eleventh hour bid by Llewellyn, the 'new age' publishers, has rescued the magazine. Doubtless some changes are in the offing, but it is excellent news that the world's longest surviving news-stand journal of the paranormal will live to greet a new decade.

BUFORA Bulletin Nov (with subs, £15, from 16 South Way Burgess Hill Ssx RH15) Neatest issue for some time and catching up on schedule, glad to say. Bob Digby surveys the MJ-12 debate... David Clarke reviews last February's South Yorkshire flap and JRs MUFON article on 'the two ufology's' is reprinted.

SPI NEWSLETTER (30p each, monthly, 4 Woodlea Pk Branshill Sauchie FK10 3BG) The SPI group newsletter always has something interesting in it. There have recently been articles by Margaret Fry, Peter Hough and US reports from Lindy Whitehurst, plus news on everything from UFOs to yetis and psychics.

IUR Nov/Dec 1988 (\$35, six issues, 2457 W Peterson Ave, Chicago, IL 60659 USA) Two major articles in this new issue, a long and informative interview with Budd Hopkins on his abduction work and folklorist Dr Eddie Bullard on the thorny subject of UFO waves and what reality lies behind them.

MUFON Journal (\$30, for 12, 103 Oldtowne Rd Seguin Texas 78155-4099 USA) As usual, lots of smaller fascinating articles in the November and December issues. Where else can you read the views of a Russian philosopher, a British neo-archaeologist, an American doctor of divinity, a USAF scientist, a Canadian neurophysiologist, plus lots of others and abduction cases to boot?

FOCUS (\$20, for 12, 4219 W. Olive St Suite 247 Burbank CA 91505 USA) This is where to go to find the cover-up material straight from William Moore and Stanton Friedman. Often has new original documents in it. Hot stuff

JUST CAUSE (\$15, four issues, PO Box 218 Coventry CON O6238 USA) An alternative opinion of the cover-up from those involved in the fine book "Clear Intent". Doesn't always agree with the above and you need to read it.



BOOKS OF THE MOMENT:



Lake Monster Traditions by Michel Meurger, with Claude Gagnon 1989
Fortean Tomes 1 Shoebury Rd London E6 2AQ 320pp, heavily illus. £12.95

This is the new offering (following UFOs:1947-1987) from the Fortean Times book imprint, and its much better in terms of presentation. It's a big, (heavy) book in every sense, and although primarily a study of monsters in Canadian lakes that does not make it irrelevant to the UFO subject.

Written by a folklorist and a philosopher you should expect a mythic viewpoint, full of ancient legends, symbology and centuries old tracts. It is certainly all of those things and at times you get the feeling that this is the sort of book you should read as a punishment for lent because its good for the soul. The muddy language can get thicker than that at the base of any lake under review and frankly there are places where it needs supreme concentration to figure out what the authors are trying to say.

The point appears to be that they do not believe the debunkers, the monster hunters or the parapsychologists have got things right. Instead they are sure these tales are just legends created by social story telling based on misperceived ambiguous stimuli. For most of you I will have just saved nearly thirteen quid, because you won't comprehend much else past that.

I read it just as I was finishing "Mind Monsters" (my current project) and from that lucky perspective saw a lot of the clues linking their field studies with ufology. If you have the perseverance or an interest in either myths and legends or folklore theories, or regard anomalies as something 'manufactured', then this book will certainly repay your investment. I only wish it were less obscure, because the important cautionary points it makes will wash over the heads of most - except for those already converted. Pity.

MEDIA MATTERS: -

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A look at UFOs in the public eye



Always first with the news, the 'out of this world' Daily Star have discovered the 'stealth' aircraft may be UFOs story, featured in UFO Conspiracy two years ago and throughout 1988 in NUN and elsewhere. A preliminary piece on 2 Dec reported Southend MP, Teddy Taylor, asking the government if stealth might not be behind the number of sightings in his area of late (many of which were certainly more conventional air traffic and the 27 October space debris/meteor). Then on 6 January they went to town with "Has this jet been mistaken for a UFO?", claiming that when test flown over California the stealth bomber provoked hundreds of UFO reports and so speculating that the huge rise in sightings in Britain last year was due to secret test flights here. But then what about the all too similar 'silent vulcan' and triangular UFO reports going back as far as 1978?

Of course, nothing can outdo the Sunday Sport for silliness. On a 3 Feb TV fiasco (James Whale Radio Show - sensibly shunned by self respecting British ufologists who they courted, including your editor and Andy Roberts) the Sport 'news' editor (surely that's a contradiction in terms?) claimed they were now the "local paper for outer space". He did so sat next to a very much at home and jovial Harry - 'call me Woody Allen' - Harris and the only abductee now wearing Cliff Richard gear and entertaining the teeny boppers.... Alan Godfrey, who joked about Harry having his hand up his back.

So far this year in the Sport we have discovered (1 Feb) that Cybill Shepherd of "Moonlighting" has been 'raped by aliens' (a fact she discovered whilst flat on her back and under the influence in the psychiatrists.) Also (5 Feb) that Americans are buying truck loads of a hi-tech kit to ward off alien abductors you bump into on the street (some sort of plastic bag - no doubt making someone a fortune...now why didn't I think of that?)...And in their New Year predictions that Terry Wogan (who has already interviewed several aliens on his chat show without realising it) is about to be beamed up for a guest role on "Alpha Centauri Tonight".

But my favourite is this corker - must be a candidate for headline of the year, even for the Sport. "UFO bun stole my knickers"...You see this Turkish woman dropped a cream cake, which was really a "UFO battleship". It promptly flew up her pinny and "came out with my undies". Local UFO expert (Yilmaz Salish, otherwise known as Ima Farih Tayil?) said "We are getting more and more reports of UFOs taking on the form of common food." So next issue stand by for the Sport story, UFO disguised as a load of baloney.

UPDATES:

Little green hoaxer... First off news from Raymond Broderick, reference "Terror on the third green" (see p.13, last issue). The Baxenden golf course 'landing' is a positive hoax. Hope the hoaxer was made to relay the grass.

Stealth UFOs... David Pritchard from Cheadle writes to clear up problems over the Stealth nomenclature. He has discovered that it is officially an F117A (which is out of any normal sequence). He reports from 'Airforces Monthly' that the project was initiated in 1973 (does this mean tests might have been feasible by 1978?) and the code name was 'Have Blue' (NB: most UFO projects are supposed to have blue in their coding!) As to the stealth bomber (even more like the triangular UFOs reported lately) a scaled 'proof' vehicle allegedly flew in 1982. David believes that any 'flying wing' UFO stories (eg the Hudson Valley UFO sightings in the USA two or three years back) should be treated with suspicion... On the other hand, Ron Sargeant, of Irlam, who has worked on aircraft engineering, points out that if Stealth were in the areas where the UFOs have been seen they would be 'in transit' and "moving very fast and straight - most likely east to west or west to east". Dawdling flight, he argues, would only be around the East Anglian bases (eg Mildenhall/Bentwaters). He thinks Stealth would most likely fly within other military air traffic. He is sceptical of the waves of sightings reported last year being due to massive Stealth testing.

Mundrabilla, Australia... Thanks to Vladimir Godic of UFORA for news on this case of the car 'attacked' by a UFO which created global headlines a year ago. The Victoria UFO Society (claim to be the largest in the southern hemisphere and third largest in the world) allege that the dust left in the car (which UFORA found to be worn brake lining) is potassium chloride. A Melbourne University say it is 'high velocity particles' as if 'it might have come from a space shuttle blast'. This electron microscope evidence seems to turn the case on its head. There was so much chlorine in the sample it was like it came from a swimming pool. Also VUFORS claim a FOUR HOUR time lapse exists; although hypnosis of the Knowles family revealed no new memories. Vlad tells me UFORA reject this study and will publish their own definitive report soon. We'll keep you updated.

The Mrs B abduction... Readers will know that Mrs B, from Lancashire, told of an abduction experience in February 1988, the night after a 'Dynasty' episode was screened in the UK graphically depicting one. Many details matched. Despite extensive coverage in the 'Sunday Sport' (where else?) the investigation by Philip Mantle, Andy Roberts and Rodney Howarth concluded the incident was a vivid dream/hallucination. Nevertheless, other parties have continued the investigation and placed Mrs B under hypnosis. New details have emerged, which have been conveyed to me. As I am not sure whether this material was 'leaked' or sent with approval, I am not naming the source. But readers need to see what is now being added to this case.

Hypnosis occurred in July 1988, by a qualified female hypnotist and clairvoyant (but seemingly not medically qualified). Firstly, she was taken back to watching Dynasty on the Friday night then she cried out "Two men... Two men... One tall, the other shorter... I'm going... I'm going." After reassurances she describes 'floating' then "I'm touching ground... Its grass... We're walking up a ramp. Its a spaceship... Its oval shape. Its like a fairground... Its like metallic." Inside are "all different coloured lights. There's a panel... colours are red, yellow, blue." Next she goes into another room which is white... "I'm on a table. I've got no clothes on... They've got me legs... They've shackled me legs." Then they put something over her and another thing in her arm... To Mrs B it was "just like having a baby... They've got a thing. It's going up. They're taking something down from me. I know they are. It's sore." (At this point there was extreme hysteria and the hypnotist allowed her to miss out painful memories). She returned to a point smelling cinnamon. A "man in a tin suit" and a "chart" on a table are mentioned. The alien calls himself Gerard (!) and explains he is a scientist who just wants to do an experiment. He comes from "a long, long, long, long way away. It takes one five oh light years." As she is taken back she sees them better as tall humans with leathery skin. As for their purpose... "They want this (from me) to make like we are families. They've taken something from me to make a family... Their planet is barren. They want to make us over there..."

The hypnosis was terminated with Mrs B in great distress and terrified of the aliens return. Allegedly, 36 hours later (the early hours of 29 July 1988), Mrs B was abducted for a second time, just as she feared.

What are we to make of this? It seems to contradict the claim that Mrs B's abduction did NOT occur the night after the Dynasty episode as she alleged when the similarities with the TV show were pointed out. And the way in which the second abduction occurred 'to order' is interesting. The hypnosis has many elements you would find in a standard account - but the one major difference could be the most crucial. Mrs B remembers being led into the UFO by a ramp (exactly as Fallon was on 'Dynasty'). Frankly, this is so out of synch with other abductions (where the entry into the UFO is hardly ever recalled) that it may tell a great deal. Also, new features that tie in with the 'Dynasty' script emerge, (The cinnamon, leather skin etc were conscious memories). The tall men in silver foil is a Fallon image, and most telling of all to me is the name of the alien. Gerard is a butler in the 'Dynasty' show. Note also how Mrs B seems to have the aliens calling 'one five oh light years' a DURATION - when it is, of course, a DISTANCE. On the other hand, Mrs B reportedly has a strange lump in her ovaries (which has been verified) and is willing to undergo tests. I'll report if we hear results.

ANOTHER CHRISTMAS STAR:

Another spectacular fireball whizzed across the sky near midnight on 20 December 1988. Media coverage indicates a concentration of sightings in the north east and Yorkshire; although they came from as far south as Worcester. In North Yorkshire it was seen by police at Scotch Corner as a "bright light" which "burst into flames". Many other reports of the several seconds duration 'flare' came from Durham, Northumbria and Yorkshire. A Scarborough taxi driver termed it "a massive thing with bits falling off it". But the biggest report was in the Sheffield Star, making the usual wisecracks about Father Christmas. Described here as "a blinding light with a blue vapour trail" they openly called it a UFO and painted it as more mysterious than most other sources (who generally quoted air traffic control identifications as re-entering space debris). YUFOS were quoted in the Yorkshire Evening Press (Mark Birdsall - "We could have something unusual here". He called 1988 the 'year of the UFO'.) Meanwhile, the Yorkshire police press officer didn't help at all, by stating, "It was a bright light in the east, and these three men on camels were seen coming over Sutton Bank Top heading towards a place called Bethlehem, which is near Thirsk. I gather that YUFOS have found a 'curved flight path' that began in Worcester and speculated about a link with the Lockerbie Pan Am jumbo jet disaster (now known to have been downed by a terrorist bomb) - which came just over 19 hours later... What if it hit this sort of UFO etc, etc. They are still investigating, but all the facts point towards Arnold West of BUFORA being spot on when he told the Worcester Evening News right away; "Off the cuff I would have said it might have been a meteor or satellite debris burning up." Unless dramatic evidence that suggests otherwise comes to light then this must be accepted as the explanation.

A VIEW ON THE SKY By Gary Anthony

During January Venus was spectacular in the sky pre dawn, rising just before the sun and being very bright. From February onward it moved to become less and less visible and it will be late April before it is prominent again (this time in the evening sky, just after sunset, low in the south east). Mars is steadily losing magnitude as we move from January through to April. Jupiter is just a little less bright than Venus but is still highly spectacular in the evening sky. In January and February it sets in the early hours. During March, setting time comes down to about 11pm and by the end of April it is only in view until about 10pm. There is a partial sun eclipse on 7 Mar (not visible from Britain). Up until March the only expected meteor shower centres around 20 Mar, but its hourly rate is very poor in comparison with the autumn showers. Slightly better (but still nothing outstanding) are the Lyrids which peak on 21 April. 10 per hour are expected at maximum. Clearly, Venus for early AM sightings to January and Jupiter, for evening UFOs until the spring, are the most likely astronomical IFOs.

BRIEF CASES: -

Some current investigations

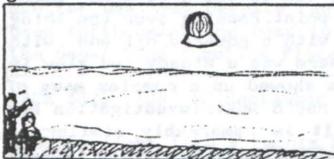
PHANTOM COPTER RIDES AGAIN

Investigation: -David Clarke, Dave Kelly, Andy Roberts IUN Case 7478

Those of you who recall the days when NUFON and NUN began fifteen years ago this month may remember the 'mystery helicopter' - a glowing light chased by police over the Pennines in the 1974/75 spell. Some details are in the relevant chapter of "Pennine UFO Mystery" and David Clarke and Andy Roberts have been reinvestigating the best cases for their forthcoming Robert Hale title "Phantoms of the skies". They have also uncovered 'new' cases, such as this one. It occurred on 17 January 1974 on Darley Moor in Derbyshire. Two police officers were involved (sadly one of these died just before the investigation). At 23.45 the PC (now dead) 'mysteriously' stopped the car. They observed a strange bluish/white light, got out and stood in the middle of the road hearing a humming noise ("like a kids top"). They radioed in and were told to 'observe and report only'. After a few moments a man on a scooter came by and stopped. He said that a big light had come up over the hill and nearly 'swallowed' him. They put him in the car and drove to the base of the hill, when another light approached, took 15-20 seconds and just went out. Three others followed over the next few minutes and the last one seemed to project a beam to the ground (or a beam came UP from the ground to it). It was more brilliant than a magnesium flare. After a few moments it went out, there was a 'drumming' and a red light appeared, made a 'ffsssh' sound and moved away in an arc very fast - 'like a tracer bullet'. At midnight a call came in from police at nearby Cheadle of a sighting there (in line of sight with where the UFO left). Six days later came the 'Bala fault' earthquake with its famous mystery lights (see 'UFO Reality' pp 152-3). IUN suspect an earthlights solution to these Derbyshire reports.

CASE 8181 LUFOIC September 1981 Ingoldmells, Lincs Clive Potter B 5-8

Two couples on holiday at 12.00 observed a series of LITS (red, green and white 'fluorescent, hazy clouds) climb into cloud over the sea. In view just a few seconds. They 'danced', changed colour and were like a 'neon tube' effect. They did not look solid. An hour later a 'silver sphere' was seen to glide across the sea (about 60' high) and climb into cloud. In appearance it



was not unlike a chocolate orange (ie segment pieces) but with a skirt. This was as viewed through binoculars. It reflected the sun off its surface. It came from the Skegness direction and took about 3 minutes to climb. The witnesses were sure its motion was controlled.

It was not behaving like a balloon. Clive Potter notes the interesting close similarity with the object seen by four youths at Devils Garden, Frodsham, Cheshire in their 27 January 1978 'entity' encounter. A third sighting by the main (male) witness occurred when he visited the toilets in the following night (CP says 16.00 hours - but presumably means either 4am or 06.00??) This sounds as if it was just a fleeting observation of a bright star or planet lost in clouds. CP suggests an RPV and military activity over the sea could be the cause for the daylight sightings and that does sound possible. IUN are apparently doing a follow up investigation of that interpretation.

NB: REF PAGE 4, THE PLUG HAS BEEN TEMPORARILY PULLED ON THE 'CHILL LINE'. IT IS SUSPENDED ALONG WITH CHAT LINES AS A 'BAD INFLUENCE' (!) UFO CALL GOES ON

A report received from Ms P, now aged 16, of Bebbington, Wirral, refers to a sighting as a child in Summer 1982 (no month known). It was daylight (time unknown) and she was playing hide and seek. Doing the seeking she saw two red LITS (like an aircraft), but they were stationary, moved toward each other, passed and then stopped again when they had reversed their former positions. Then they simply vanished 'like a light going off'. Duration 10sec

ANOTHER VANISHING UFO

Case 8341 Spring 1983 Aycliffe, Co Durham Jim Ross C SP 5-5

Joanne, now aged 19 and a student, was talking with two friends in the garden at 15.00 on an overcast day when an object appeared 'flying very low'. It made a 'whizzing' noise and rotated like a spinning top. As it approached it even looked like a spinning top, being hexagonal in shape and with coloured segments (three/four on top and three/four below). These were red, blue and yellow in colour. As the object got closer a 'growling' noise was added ("like a supersonic aircraft but slowed down"). They also could see that the top half rotated anti-clockwise and the bottom half clockwise (as viewed from above). It came from the north west, was at only about 100 feet and Joanne stole herself and ran in for her camera. She ran back out into the rear garden with the camera but could not find it. The other girls (who stayed outside) say it "just vanished into thin air". She is certain it could not be an aircraft and was moving too slowly. Total duration about 4 minutes. Neither Jim Ross nor I have a clue on this one.



A CLOSE UP VIEW OF THE SILENT VULCAN?

Case 8657 November 1986 Overseal, Leics C. Potter/K. Flannery A SP 5-5

At 05.40, Mr G was travelling to work when two white LITS were seen over a field to the south. Turning left at some roadworks he was now shocked to find a huge object through the side window. As he moved north the object did seem to follow, then veered off to the north - east. It moved very slowly (estimated 80 mph) and was extremely low to the ground. No sound was heard at any point. Passing over the thing was like an oval with a squared off end, with two appendages. There was a steady red glow in the base and this showed up a complex mass of 'tangled piping'. The object moved away to the north west. Investigation has uncovered no solution (eg a helicopter). But it is remarkably similar to many other cases of the 'Silent Vulcan' type. Clive Potter notes the closest match as case 8088, 7 December 1980, at Buxton, Derbyshire, where the witness even described the underside as having 'complex piping'. Several other cases are known, with a massive superstructure, girder-like and a steady red light. One of the earliest was on 14 November 1977 right over the Shell Oil refinery at Partington, Greater Manchester (see detailed MUFORA report in FSR Vol 24 No 4 - or summary in Hilary Evans' 'The Evidence for UFOs'). A new case from Shropshire is being investigated by MUFORA and the triangular UFOs in South Wales which JR investigated with the BBC for a TV documentary (see 'Sky Crash') are further examples. There is no question that some sort of slow-moving, constructed craft (possibly a secret military airship) is being regularly flown over Britain to create these highly consistent cases.



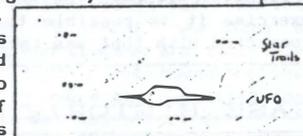
Case 8749 UFORM 16 October 1987 Ratcliffe, Notts Reg Burton A SP 2-5

At 20.30 a young boy and his mother were driving past the power station at Ratcliffe-on-Soar when they saw a white light, shaped like a rugby ball and with an orange halo, circle around one of the cooling towers and fly off. Extensive and excellent investigation seems to have suggested with reasonable certainty that the UFO was a light aircraft in banking motion.

UFO PHOTOGRAPHED OVER CLEVELAND

Case 8806 17 February 1988 Linthorpe, Cleveland Jim Ross C SP 5-4

The story came to light with an article in the Middlesborough Gazette (22 Feb) which reproduced the photograph. The report told little about the sighting, except that two youths had filmed a light they had seen. The photo showed a classic disc-like UFO, not just a light. I wrote to the paper to request that these boys get in touch. Nothing happened. So Jim Ross tracked them down. They seem to have been not too easy to persuade. Although the name, address and photo of the cameraman appeared in the paper he now asks for anonymity. He was 20 at the time and a computer 'datafield' worker. Three teenage friends (all male) were with him and they returned from shops at about 23.30 when they saw a light in the South East. As they got out of the car it remained there stationary, so he went to get his camera and tripod, set it up in the garden with a wide angle lens and long time exposure and went away for half an hour. They came back, the UFO was still there and so he switched off the cameras 'B' setting. A few minutes later the UFO 'went straight up' into clouds. Only one of his friends (age 18 and a security guard) has cooperated. He says it was 22.00 - an hour and a half earlier. Also that the time exposure was just 20 mins. This matches the star trails on the picture. Both sketches are identical with the photo, but it is most unlikely they saw that sort of detail with their eyes. Both Venus and Jupiter were spectacular in this part of the sky at the time and it is virtually certain that one or both of them was photographed and the UFO effect created by planetary motion across the sky during the period the shutter was open. Despite requests, camera details and the negative have not been forthcoming and bear in mind that the day this photo was submitted to the paper 'The Time, The Place' on ITV had discussed UFOs! 'Nuff said!



CASE 8823 IUN 12 September 1988 Shelf, W. Yorkshire Andy Walmsley A SP 4-9

A white light like a tennis ball moved from north west to south east across the sky. Witness only did not think it was aircraft due to lack of sound and no flashing lights. However, it was almost certainly an aircraft with landing lights on, drowning other possible lighting.

CASE 8824 CUFOSC 13 September 1988 Crewe, Cheshire Eric Morris A SP 4-4

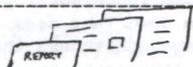
Two young men in a car observed two white lights with red/orange light in between. They continued looking as they left Crewe to drive home to Audlem and about 20 minutes later saw a second object - a red ball - which white lights flew over. These were in the south. Investigation revealed that the first lights were probably one of several aircraft travelling into or out of Manchester Airport. As for the second sighting, after enquiries at the

local air base, on 21 September Eric received a call from RAF West Drayton! He was told by their SAC Davies that an exercise involving military aircraft was taking place in the Stafford/Welsh borders area on 13 September. Eric asked if Stealth aircraft were involved and the caller refused to comment directly, but said, 'draw your own conclusions'. Quite.

CASE 8825 IUN 16 September 1988 Pudsey, West Yorks Andy Walmsley C SP 6-8

Single male witness driving from Bradford to Leeds at 21.15 when lights were seen in the west. Considered aircraft landing at Yeadon Airport, but it remained stationary. A row of round 'portholes' were visible and brightly lit. During a five minute period the windows appeared to rotate clockwise, still hovering. As he had to meet a train he drove on. Returning at 22.10 the object had gone. The investigator believes this was probably a helicopter; although none traced. Bearing in mind the above military exercise it is possible that this ran until the 16th and aerial activity connected with that was taking place over the Pennines as well.

CASE HISTORIES



THE PERFECT ABDUCTION? (Part 5) MUFORA Report by Peter Hough

Case 8744 1 December 1987 Ilkley Moor, W. Yorkshire Level A (SP 9-5)

Philip's alleged encounter with a UFO and 'little green man' had two vital elements - the photograph he took of the entity and the apparent time loss of about one and three quarter hours. Last issue we saw the results of the photo analysis work (although some of this continues - with a hope of computer enhancement). Now let us consider the time lapse.

Not until all aspects of the case had been thoroughly investigated was hypnosis even considered to unravel the missing time. But Philip was agreeable and this was clearly an important step to take. However, the credibility of evidence that materialises in this way is another matter.

Philip actually requested the hypnosis because he had a 'feeling' this would help. He spoke of a recent dream in which he saw a pattern of stars in the sky. Through a journalist at a college writing about UFOs we found a clinical psychologist, Dr Jim Singleton. He had no knowledge of UFOs and had not previously investigated such a case. Dr Singleton met Philip on 16 March and explained hypnosis to him. Then on 19 March the full session took place.

Dr Singleton would not let investigators be in the room, but did allow the session to be tape recorded. Philip proceeded, under hypnosis, to recount in the present tense what he says took place. It began as he walked up the moor on a cloudy day (if it was dark how did he know this? - JR) when he saw "this little something... I Can't tell, but he's green. It's moving towards me. Oh! I can't move. I'm stuck... Everything's gone fuzzy... I'm floating along in the air. I want to get down!"

He recalls rounding a bend and seeing 'the big silver like saucer thing' and a door. He says he doesn't want to enter, but then loses consciousness.

He continues; "I can't see anything like I'm asleep. Can't hear anything. There's a bright light now... In a funny sort of room. I can hear this voice saying don't be afraid. I don't feel afraid any more."

The standard abduction scenario follows. He gets onto a table, but is not frightened. A "beam like a pole" moves towards him from above with a fluorescent tube light on it. As it moves over his body he feels warm. Then he feels discomfort in his nose, but does not watch what is happening. He returns to the proceedings as he is standing up with one of (several) of the green creatures motioning him to go through a door.

Through the door he is in a corridor, passes a window and seems to be 'in space'. He adds; "Is that real?... Don't want to be up here. I want to be down there. Its pretty though. Didn't realise it looks so pretty." (Earth as the astronauts see it, he later confirmed; although it could have been a film). Now he enters a larger room and his camera and compass are allegedly attracted (as if by magnetism) towards a ball that moves round in the middle. He has to tug them back. (This is supposedly where the magnetisation of the compass needle occurred; although the camera was not effected)

He returns to the corridor and keeps repeating his amazement that the light is coming from no visible source. Two of the green creatures take him to a room where 'pictures' move on the wall. They show these 'films' and ask questions. One alien says 'do you understand?', Philip replies 'yes'. Now it goes black again and he is back on the moor. Ahead of him he sees a movement. Its a green creature. He says; "I don't know what it is" and describes taking its photograph. This implies that he had no memory of the on board experience even in the moments immediately afterwards.

Later Philip described the two 'films' he was shown. "One was lots of scenes of destruction, like on the news. Can see lots of waste going into the river and people like Ethiopians who are starving... Its not very nice." As for the other "I'm not supposed to tell you... I'm not supposed to tell anybody... Its not for them to know."

Dr Singleton said Philip was 'a good hypnotic subject, perhaps slightly better than normal.' He was 'definitely under hypnosis. That's my opinion. To have faked it convincingly, Philip would have had to have studied hours of video taped sessions. Then he would have to be a very good actor to have carried it off.' Surprisingly, the psychologist had no doubt about the veracity of the testimony either. 'He was certainly recounting the incident as something which had actually happened. He described things typically as someone would recall a past event. He compares well with other non-UFO subjects.'

As for Philip after the hypnosis, he remembered it all. He said that the entities were basically good and 'seemed part of a team. They were'n't acting as individuals, but more like bees'. As for the secret film, he said; "There are certain things about your wife you would never tell anyone. That's how I feel about the second film."

Having heard the hypnosis tape, I (JR) found Philip a little unemotive, compared with other cases. He struck me as rather detached under hypnosis and I am less convinced he truly WAS under the influence. But then

Dr Singleton is the expert. The plot of the story is straight out of any UFO abduction study and adds nothing new. The team like behaviour of the entities is similar to claims in Communion, a book Philip could easily have read by December 1987. Overall, I was not convinced by the hypnosis in comparison with other cases. That said, Peter Hough was impressed and he was there. So, of course, was the hypnotist. . . . To be concluded next issue

FINAL
WORDS

A little bird has given me some interesting information hot from the MoD via Clive Neville. It is the total numbers of UFO reports they have received for the past decade. These are: - 19789 (550), 1980 (350), 1981 (600), 1982 (250), 1983 (390), 1984 (215), 1985 (175), 1986 (120), 1987 (150), 1988 (400)... These are rounded up to the nearest ten. As you can see that is 3200 for these ten years (about three times the BUFORA total). Yet they are doing nothing with them. Note also the 1981 'flap' which doesn't appear in our figures.

For those who have not taken the special offer and subscribed to UFO BRIGANTIA as well as NUN heres what you are missing... articles in the last two issues on the Scarborough 'UFO crash' of 1957, Celtic mythology and UFOs, Whitley Strieber's new tome, Transformation, explored in depth, problems with the UFOCAT computer project, the Peter Beard photo case analysis etc etc. You can still stay in tune by simply sending an extra £5 to 'top up' your Northern UFO News subscription... And then get one issue per month.

CALENDAR

1 Apr Ralph Noyes (former MoD undersecretary) gives a paper on 'Aliens' BUFORA lecture, London Business School, 6.30-9.30pm... near Baker St tube
18 Apr Jenny Randles on 'Experiencing the paranormal' PM. at the Edgeley Library, by Stockport County FC ground... Call library for full details
22 Apr Peter Hough on 'The Ilkley Entity Photos' (plus support) at the Bradford Central Library (2-5pm) Admission £2 adult/£1.50 BUFORA/OAP/child

NUFON Regional Groups

| | | | |
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| NLUFOIG | (Cumbria) | 89 Bare Lane, Morecambe, Lancashire | LA 4 6RN |
| HSWL | (Nth Lancs) | 63 Devonshire Dr, Clayton-le-Moors, Lancs | BB 5 5RH |
| B&FUFOS | (Fylde Coast) | 293 Devonshire Rd, Blackpool, Lancashire | FY 2 0TW |
| WAPIT | (Sth Lancs) | 20 Duncan Place, Pemberton, Wigan, Lancs | WN 5 6RP |
| MUFORA | (Cheshire) | 6 Silsden Ave, Lowton, Lancashire | WA 3 1EN |
| IUN | (Yorkshire) | 1 Woodhall Dr, Healey Lane, Batley, W. Yks | WF17 7SU |
| CUFOSC | (Shropshire) | 117 Earle Street, Crewe, Cheshire | CW 1 2AG |
| SSPR | (Derbyshire) | 17 Old Quarry Ave, Wales, Sheffield | S 31 2RV |
| BASE | (W. Midlands) | 2 Chapel St, Kingswinford, W. Midlands | DY 6 0JU |
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