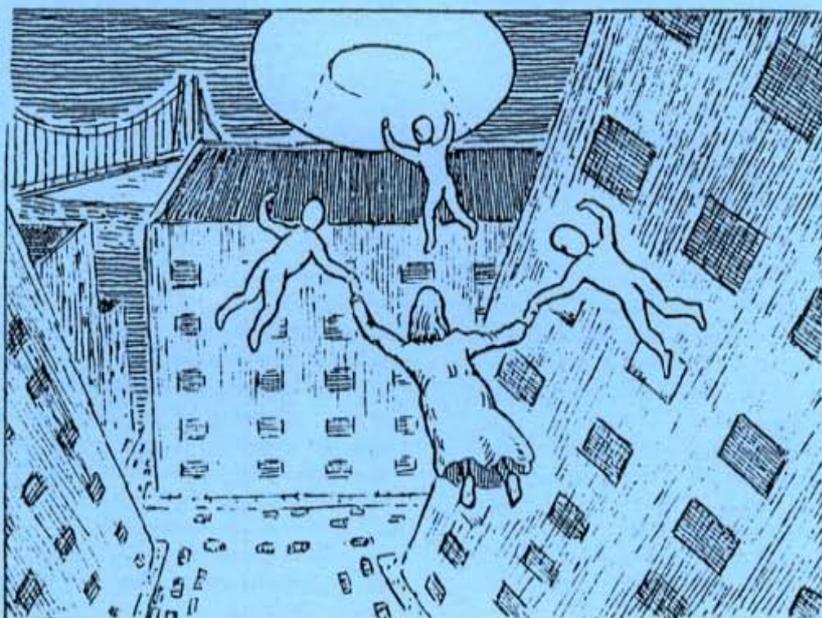


NORTHERN UFO NEWS

176

June 1997

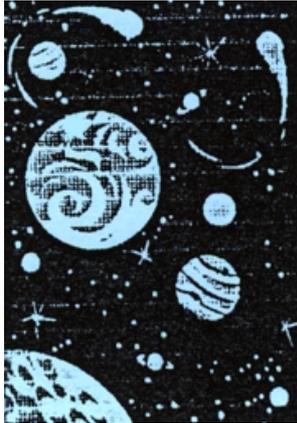


COVER DESIGN: ROY SANDBACH

EDITOR: JENNY RANGLES

NB: Will all exchange magazines please note new address

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JR Comment!...

No doubt you are all wondering where on earth this magazine has been. It has been five long months since the last edition and it was certainly never my intention to let it run that long before this issue appeared.

By now, of course, you are used to my long list of excuses. So none of what follows will come as any huge surprise. But there have been a massive number of difficulties that have contributed to this delay. Hopefully these are behind us now - and, yes, I know that I have said that all before!

So - what excuses do I have this time around? Well, it started with a house move in November - which has proven a real headache. Either we moved into Amityville or I have turned into a prime candidate for Albert Budden to investigate. Either way we have had so many electrical problems since we arrived that it has been a nightmare. Three VCRs, two electric fires, endless other pieces of equipment and light bulbs have gone crazy. The local Electricity Company even called us to say that if we were not careful we would end up owing them thousands of pounds as our consumption was going through the roof. We have yet to figure out precisely why this is the case. But those quartz crystals in the stone that surrounds us and those UFOs that keep flying overhead may have something to do with it - you never know!

Then my (t)rusty computer disintegrated in a puff of smoke - well, it stopped working anyhow. First the disk drive, then the hard drive and finally all those bits I don't at all understand started to go potty. The end result was the need to find some money to buy a new one before I could even think about

doing any work. So it was "pass round the hat" to my publishers and see where it took us.

If that were not enough my own health went downhill fast after Christmas - some sort of mysterious kidney disease that still has the doctors baffled. It has left me so ill for days on end that work has been the last thing on my mind for quite some time. How I made it through the weekend of the Unconvention I don't know, as I was really sick.

When it was possible to work I had to engage in my usual pursuit of writing three books before breakfast just to keep up with my reputation as being 'prolific'! In fact, this stems from one simple consideration. Nick Pope gets £50,000 to write one book. He has a job from the MoD as well - which pays quite well I bet. I get less than one tenth of that - usually a heck of a lot less than one tenth I should add! Consequently, to pay bills - like the mortgage - basic math tells you that I cannot survive just by writing one book a year.

Would that I could spend time to really produce a darned good book, but the fantasy money on offer elsewhere is not coming my way. Tim Good is reputed to be getting £200,000 for his next book 'Alien Bases'. Even Nick Redfern has just been paid £40,000 for his first ever book on the subject - due in the autumn. I don't begrudge these people this kind of money; I should stress - lest you think this is jealousy overdrive in action.

It's not. Frankly, I dare say I could ditch all my current publishers and try to write an epic for one of these big spenders. But publishers such as Hale, Cassell and Piatkus have been good to me. They supported my books when nobody else did. I am not about to desert them for greener pastures, as British UFOlogy owes them a debt. They kept the literature appearing at a time when it was not a big market seller. But loyalty means a lot to me.

Loyalty includes all of you as well -so, fear not. Northern UFO News is not about to go down the gurgler. It will be back on track for a more regular appearance and you will get all of the Issues that you have paid for.

I am saying thank you to you all for your loyalty and patience.

Triangular Evidence:

The black triangle that has plagued the north west and north midlands since 1995 continues to be the subject of intense debate.

Since my last update national newspapers have reported the prospect that some kind of British stealth project is under development and causing the many nocturnal sightings. Whilst BAE at Warton in Lancashire remains the favourite option there seem to be offshoots of the project at various other bases.

Later in this issue there will be news of other events in relation to this ongoing saga -including more sightings. However, Tim Matthews at the Lancashire UFO Society continues to be the prime mover in the hunt for the truth about this phenomenon. You should look out for a number of conferences the group plan to stage during the summer (see back page) in which the latest evidence will no doubt be featured.

As case reports later in this issue show there was an intriguing development in December 1996. Jim Sneddon in Scotland succeeded in taping the audio communications between a cargo plane heading between Ireland and the Lancashire coast. During the event what might have been a triangle was spotted by the crew.

Then there was the photograph of a daylight 'triangle' snapped near Bolton - with furious dispute as to its true origin.

Quite the most remarkable event is currently under investigation by Tim.

On Good Friday (late March 1997) a witness seems to have taken both camcorder footage and still photographs of a hovering black triangle on the Lincolnshire coast.

Tim is researching the case and preliminary computer enhancement on the images seems to suggest that this case is genuine.

One problem is that it occurred near Donna Nook - the noted RAF practice range. It was here - in 1993 - that a series of close encounters occurred in which the base commander himself was a witness. Power outages (also reported in connection with the Lancashire triangle sightings) and the mysterious appearance of the MIB (causing film to disappear) all had a hand - see the NUN files (The Lights of Louth) in issues 164 to 167.

I hope to have more on Tim's research in the next issue. Things are really hotting up.



REPTILIANS

It is nice to be able to have something good to say about BUFORA. They seem to think I have it in for them since my demise from council back in December 1993. Not so. I respect them as an organization - remain a member -and continue to operate UFO Call. Of course, I reserve the right to criticize if I feel it is due (as I did over their actions regarding the Roswell autopsy footage). But here they have performed admirably and I am delighted to say so.

Ever since the movie 'Alien' and TV series "V" there has been a growing smattering of sightings of reptile aliens as featured in these epics. Most have been in the USA. I do not know of any in the UK; although the link between SF and alien contact as exemplified here is perhaps worth contemplating. Does it infer a sociological and cultural bond with wider implications?

In any case, the incredible happened on 21 December 1996 when a reptilian alien was captured alive from a crashing UFO! Yes, you read that correctly. But, of course, it was not that simple. The event (how topical can you get at Christmas time) occurred in a Galilee farming village called Achihod. This is in Israel. A light was seen and a local kibbutz member found the alien on the ground amidst a load of slime.

From the start the warning signs should have been heeded. Said alien was only 5 cm (i.e. a couple of inches) long with four limbs and rather reptilian in appearance. Earth reptilian that is! The police arrived and one startled officer was attacked (that is the alien tried to hop onto his back) as the creature was scooped up into a bucket. Soon afterwards mini ET passed away.

Uri Geller heard the story from his native land and reputedly offered a million dollars to buy the alien. Media speculation was rife that the creature was unearthly. However, this had died down by 15 January 1997 when an Israeli UFOlogist Debby Segal contacted BUFORA to request their help with an investigation.

Samples from the 'alien' were flown to the UK and BUFORA quickly arranged a proper study by a Manchester laboratory. A brand new

mass spectrometer was used to check the signature of the chemicals involved. Nine separate analyses were concluded by 29 January.

For the first time an alien body was subjected to a major scientific investigation and the results were - perhaps predictably - somewhat disappointing.

LC 2 Ltd. of Wythenshawe conducted isotope analysis tests. Three runs were carried out on each sample. In all cases the results were exactly what would be expected for terrestrial carbon and nitrogen. Nothing out of this world was involved.

It was concluded that the DNA strands of the animal recovered from Galilee were definitely terrestrial. Indeed there was quite a close match with that of frogs and lizards.

Photographs of the 'alien' taken at the 'crash site' leave one with the very obvious impression that this was the case - even without weeks of chemical investigation. Frankly, I am, at a loss to comprehend why anyone would have jumped (or rather - hopped) to any other explanation just from first glance.

BUFORA are to be commended for this excellent work - and I am grateful to Mike Wootten for sending me a copy of the lab report so that the truth could be told very quickly. Inside six weeks of this incident we had the completed investigation. Uri Geller was also rapidly notified before he chose to part with his money.

That said, it was rather puzzling to see the report in one newsstand magazine in the clutch of UFO and alien titles on sale today which appeared two months after this investigation and yet featured the case as if it were still unsolved.

It is good to see that real UFOlogy is still being carried out in this country - but, unfortunately, the media did not give any praise to BUFORA for doing it. One can only imagine what the tabloids - and indeed the skeptics - would have had to say if the suggestion had been that a real reptilian ET had been recovered from Israel.

Sadly, this is all too typical of the double standards at work in today's UFO world especially when those feature any reports about it written from outside of the subject. Do something wrong and they'll let you know. Do something right and they'll look the other way.

Little green football men descended on Cumbria in November when Carlisle United Soccer club chairman Michael Knighton made the decision to attend an Aetherius Society meeting in the town and confess that he had experienced a close encounter. Perhaps not the wisest of moves for the millionaire to make.

The local paper was in attendance at this 'UFO group' meeting and wasted no time in producing a banner headline on 16 November saying that *'Aliens spoke to me'*, Within days the furore was nationwide, the reluctant contactee claimed his revelation was 'off the record' - in which case why he showed up at an Aetherius clan fest is hard to fathom.

Knighton's encounter occurred dining the spring 1977 wave within the Pennine Window. He was just 26 and a schoolteacher at the time, but his wife was a witness too.

The sighting is intriguing in the light of today's UFO activity in the region. The couple were driving past the M 62 near Outlane by the Scammonden Dam reservoir (scene of many sightings in the past). A strange light appeared. This resolved into a triangle, which plummeted from the sky at vast speed - falling into the water. It now appeared as an oval of light that hovered over a filling station near the Lancashire / Yorkshire border.

It was at this point the most peculiar phase of the incident occurred. Knighton became a contactee when he heard a voice in his head utter the immortal words so beloved of the aliens - 'Do not be afraid.' He told the Aetherius gathering that the encounter had changed his life and he hoped that the spacemen would get back in touch.

A huge row exploded because of the media response - notably in Carlisle, where Knighton was having some trouble from fans who wanted him out. He visualised the press reporting of this story as a vicious hate campaign and threatened to quit - saying that he was fearful of his son getting ribbed at school with the line - 'Your dad speaks to ET.'

The local newspaper eventually defended pleaded with Knighton to stay in a front-page story. Editor - Keith Sutton - noted that seeing a UFO did not disqualify the businessman from running a football club. Given how some chairmen regularly see things that definitely are not there (like talent and victories) this seems fair enough to me. Under the banner headline - 'Don't go Michael' the

West Cumbria News and Star mounted a phone poll and 76% of those who called urged him to stay. The editor even apologised for the trouble caused.

It is a pity they did not contact NUN. I looked our files for the year and there were some interesting sightings that appear to coincide. These include a multi-witness case in the Oldham and Halifax area of a shape changing light that appears to have been some aid of optical effect - possibly a temperature inversion. Without knowing the exact date of Knighton's sighting (he seems not to recall) we in never be certain this is the same case. But here are marked similarities.

If it was not an optical distortion of stars (as the above case probably was) the link with the reservoir will no doubt intrigue adherents to the earthlight theory. This is just here the ever-active Pennine light phenomena would be predicted to occur.

Of course, the key here is the 'alien contact'. Knighton confesses to having been a friend of David Icke (when he played football for Coventry). Other than that his story has interesting similarities with Jenny's encounter at Walsden in the Pennines in 1979 (see *'Star Children'* for an account). Her telepathic rapport with a shape changing light phenomenon fits neatly.

Perhaps more disturbing is how the Michael Knighton case illustrates the genuine fears that witnesses have in reporting their story; the more they have to lose in terms of reputation greater the risk. The reaction faced by this witness is not going to help our cause of persuading other respected members of the community from describing their alien contacts.

However, at least Knighton had the last laugh. Five months after the furious media attacks his team were promoted to Division Two the Football League. Whether it had anything do with that three-legged substitute signed from Zeta Reticuli we may never know.

Even as I wrote this I recognised the problem. You see what I mean - it is just so tempting to crack jokes. In truth, brave witnesses like Michael Knighton deserve our support for ring to speak out.

Mind you it was really good to see him accepting the inevitable by appearing in the stands at a match soon after the media storm wearing a 'little green man' face mask!

Nice one. Michael.

It is really good news to welcome back SPI (Strange Phenomena Investigations). After the brave decision by Malcolm Robinson to quit UFOlogy to spend more time with his family, he has now decided to re-enter the fray. His enthusiasm and dedication were sorely missed. The resurgent group has already proved themselves through the investigation of the extraordinary case at Freuchie - see later - and a televised 'trial' in which Malcolm Robinson took on Stuart Campbell in an attempt to convince a Grampian TV jury that UFOs were real. The jury agreed by 9 to 3 that this was the case.

For those wishing to help the new group they should contact them at;

29 Kent Rd Alloa Clackmannanshire Scotland FK10 2JN.

Meetings will be held at the Caperceilidh Pub in Stirling for a 50p attendance. Coming dates are on 4 June, 2 July and 6 August.

:: Phenomenal Books, which has until now been the archetypal Lancashire mail order venue for new and secondhand UFO and paranormal titles has stepped up a gear. It has opened up a store in King's Arcade on King Street in Lancaster. Run by well-known ASSAP researcher Melanie Warren it sounds well worth a visit. Call or fax the shop on 01524 - 845 559

:: Trans-UFO, the excellent journal put together by Eileen Fletcher needs your support. Not only is this a terrific publication to get a subscription for, but it needs translators. The object of the magazine is to translate into English case reports from foreign language UFO magazines - especially in Europe. In this way you get to see what is happening in some of the far flung parts of the world where the huge range of languages provide a barrier. Trans-UFO is a labour of love and deserves your support. Great value at £8 for 2 issues, payable to Eileen Fletcher at: - Derwem Cottage Derwent Dam Bamford Sheffield S302AQ

:: April 1st brought its usual crop of silly stories, but the Aberdeen Evening Press had fun with the report 'UFO spotters sky high over secret RAF jets.' Alleging that sightings of UFOs were now believed to be a top secret British stealth aircraft the paper appear to have thought they were suggesting something wildly improbable. In fact this is exactly what many

UFOlogists do think is taking place! The paper cited a spokesman for a UFO group saying; *'We know UFOs exist and what they look like mostly. It is extremely unlikely that people could confuse a UFO with an invisible plane.'* About the only thing that gave the game away was the name of this group - Unidentified Flying Objects Observation Laboratory - or UFOOL for short. Naturally, no British UFO group qualifies for such a name...

SCAMS ARE US

Want to make a million? Here's how to do it. Get abducted by aliens after you have had yourself insured against that very thing. Then you will find yourself living like a king - with the only drawback that wretched implant up your nose. Oh - and there is the way your kids grow up with two heads, and the fact that this mysterious organisation called Majestic 12 keeps chasing you intent on bumping you off. But that's just a slight worry. What the heck - you're rich!

For some years now insurance companies have been offering this service to the gullible. For a premium of a few dollars (most firms are American) you can have peace of mind that should you be spacenapped your family will be secure in comfort whilst you assist the grays in their genetic experiments on the planet Zog. The one problem is that you have to prove it to the satisfaction of the insurers.

Knowing how eager they are to part with their money when 'mundane' things like a tree falling on your car take place one can just imagine the forms you would have to fill out. Did the UFO have an up to date tax disc? Are you sure that you correctly gave the signal for -1 surrender to you invading bug eyed monsters? Think this is not going to happen this side of your winning the lottery? You cynic. For the GRIP insurance company guaranteed it and told the world that they were true to their word as well!

GRIP first appeared on 29 August 1996 in the East London Advertiser. Under the heading *'It's life insurance Jim, but not as we know it'* they reported their latest deal after such tempting offers as insurance against having a virgin birth. Simon Burgess advised that for £100 pa you could get £100,000 for an abduction, £200,000 for ET impregnation and

£300,000 if the Reptilians had you for dinner (that's not as in 'invitation' by the way!)

As Burgess said; 'Impregnation will be easy to prove'. But he helpfully suggested that abductees take a camcorder or, better still, bring home the steering wheel of the Adamski scout ship. As for being eaten - fear not - ET only has to chomp on a finger or two and they would accept proof in the form of 'out of this world faeces'. I guess that's what you call boldly going where no man has gone before.

In case you had not figured it out GRIP were not exactly treating this with overwhelming seriousness. It was (as they were later to admit) all a bit of a scam dreamt up in a pub after watching 'Independence Day'. But it was not long before the News of the World (1 December) was announcing that GRIP were considering a *£1 million* payout (seemingly a 1000% increase in three months) to a man who had paid them his premium after reading the East London press story. You see - this chap had proof that he was spacenapped - so GRIP were in big trouble.

The 23 year old London electrician was having his camcorder footage and DNA evidence checked out by nameless Cambridge scientists after being picked up near Swindle (sorry, Swindon). Burgess announced that the cheque had been ordered from Get a Grip's (evidently bottomless) bank account. The X Files Gillian Anderson (alias Dana Scully) was to present it to the man who fell to earth. What a story.

The hapless abductee had been UFO spotting when the kidnap happened. His pals filmed a giant claw that tugged him into a big black triangle. He then lost consciousness and awoke in a glassy landscape alongside a black creature like a dolphin. Recalling that he had a disposable camera the witness filmed his captor and became earth's first litter before returning to earth with a piece of the dolphin's claw imbedded in his coat As you do.

A flock of small pink grunting animals had done an aerobatics display around my living room when I was advised of this story by Talk Radio. But it was quickly to explode in the eyes of the media. Newspapers all over the planet carried the story.

I got calls from Germany, Australia and the USA about the staggering news. Yet none of these media appear to have done much - if anything - in the way of checking it out. Talk Radio called on 17 December (before the dam broke) and their reporter sniffed aerial pork. She

suggested I call the witness (whom I learned was named Joseph Carpenter). Mindful of the season - Christmas - Joseph - Carpenter - get it? - I was smelling rats, never mind pork, by now. But call JC 1 did He was on the night-shift, his rather less than thrilled wife advised. She claimed only to have been told two days before (odd - since 4 million readers of the News of the World found out 16 days before my call!) She was decidedly uneasy in answering any questions.

It was soon pretty obvious to me that she was no more about to get rich quick than fly to the moon. Or was that next week's plan? After breakfast next day JC called me back - wickedly refusing to tell me how he got my unlisted number - just reciting a line from his favourite TV show telling me to Trust No One' (Not even the BT number 1471,1 figured). JC had lots of interesting things to say. He was not going to give any interviews. Scully was handing over the cheque on Saturday in a private ceremony with no cameras.

When I pointed out that surely the insurers wanted to make hay, he grunted. Later, when I discovered Gillian Anderson was not even going to be in the UK that weekend - according to the publicity department at the BBC - it was me who was grunting. As for the hard evidence, JC would not tell me who confirmed that it was definitely non terrestrial. The film had been given to the insurers as part of the deal. It was up to them if it was to be made available for study. Probably not. All of this was seemingly very improbable.

Then Joe started to ask me how to make money from UFOlogy and become a big name in the field. I had to remind him several times of the fortune that he was supposedly receiving on Saturday, saying that he could do whatever he liked - surely? Oh, yes, he remembered. His attitude to the UFO community was intriguing 'This is my two fingers up to the UFO groups,' he told me enigmatically. By the time he asked me for the phone number of Ray Santilli (of alien autopsy fame) I said goodbye.

Even ten days later the stories still appeared in the press. According to the Sunday Sport the cheque was handed over on Christmas Eve. Scully 'could not make it'. Something about a filming date with a slime monster in the Vancouver sewers, I imagine.

Bit by bit it all unravelled. Insurance chiefs noted that GRIP was not officially registered. The Observer had the company on record as apparently saying: 'You must never underestimate the stupidity of the British public.'

Then - on 12 January 1997 - the Sunday Times gave its verdict. They had discovered that the insurance premiums were first offered in Fortean Times for under half their current price and just a £40,000 payout. As seen above this rose to £100,000 by August - before becoming £1 million by the time of the big claim.

I had told Talk Radio back in December that I suspected the insurers might be trying to prove to its victims that you had a hope of claiming successfully. Otherwise how do you 'persuade' people to pay premiums? The Times agreed They noted that JC's real name is Joe Tagliarini. A bogus Barclay's cheque was allegedly presented to keep the momentum going. The bank itself knew nothing about it.

The day after the Times expose JC (or rather JT as he now admitted he was called) phoned me in distress. He wanted me to tell the world the real truth on his behalf. The paper had claimed that GRIP and JT still insisted the story was true and the phoney name was a 'cover' to avoid the press. They added that UFO Magazine editor Mark Birdsall had heard of the scam from JT in the green room at Central TV prior to a November 1996 chat show about UFOs.

Joe merely told me that some 'big names in the British UFO community' (whom he did not specify) had known of his plans in advance and had done nothing to stop him or to set the media right at the time of the press furore. In fact they wished him well. He now did not want to see anyone claim undue credit.

But why did he do all of this? Not to make money - nor to create bogus insurance policies, he insisted. It was all a plan to raise the public profile of UFOlogy. Joe assured me he was deeply interested in the subject and wanted the public to know more about the truth. He was proud that a billion people had read his story and that many of the reporters whom he had dealt with would now cover UFOs again - although more seriously next time.

I got the impression that JT was sincere in what is (to me) a touchingly naive perspective on how the media operate. This whole thing was a scam. Joe admitted that. But he says he did it for the good of UFOlogy. Certainly it

says a lot about the way the media treat a UFO issue as a good story and never let awkward things like the facts and lack of hard evidence get in the way!

DEFENCE IMPLICATIONS

News from the Ministry of Defence

You may recall that in September 1996 the MoD suddenly made an intriguing announcement 'Hitherto it has been policy not to release the internal distribution of UFO reports. In the light of greater openness it has now been agreed that...this information may now be released'. This meant, the Independent told us, that 'UFO files will now be released for public inspection after 30 years.'

Of course, as all UFOlogists know (but we are nutters - so the Independent don't bother with us) this '30 year rule' has been releasing batches of material onto the Public Record Office in Kew every January for some time. This is no news at all.

What of the decision to publish the distribution list - the one that proves that Nick Pope's beloved 'Air Staff 2A' is not the only place that deals with UFO data at the MoD? It was presumably sheer coincidence that I had just screened to 4.5 million viewers on BBC TV a UFO file with that very list in place. This rather made the line about 'more openness' fed to the Independent hacks look pretty dumb. The MoD could hardly have hidden it after 'Britain's Secret UFO Files', could they?

However, now we were into a whole new era with the fact that Defence Intelligence Agencies dealt with UFOs aside from the civil service penpushers fully admitted. What would this lead to? We were soon to find out

Within a month Defence Minister Nick Soames was answering charges about the UFO cover up, denying there was any such thing but admitting that RAF planes had apparently been outflown by unidentified objects.

Then Defence Minister, Earl Howe wrote to Labour MP Martin Redmond to confirm that all RAF commanders had orders to report UFO sightings and that the MoD were 'open minded' about the existence of aliens. None of this is news to us. In fact, I presented an MoD fax sent to me at the BBC in my April 1996 documentary. But the media were too busy calling me a crackpot to notice little things like that and so assumed this was a big new deal. But at least it alerted Redmond to

what was going on. He challenged Defence Secretary Michael Portillo and got the usual waffle in return.

Portillo explained that the MoD investigate only to see if there are any defence implications - there never are - so they leave it at that As Nick Pope said when we talked about this; 'If there is no defence significance in the RAFs best jets being flown into the ground by an unknown object then what would have any?' Since 1 May 1997 Mr. Portillo has been looking for another job. Perhaps he can take up the exciting life of a UFOlogist and see for himself the nonsense of his words.

But then again, according to a big story in the Scottish Mail on 3 March 1997 Tony Dodd of Quest has some stunning news. 'It doesn't matter if you are a cabinet minister...people from the Ministry of Defence have been abducted. I know that and so does the government. I have even been threatened by the CIA because I know so much.' So that's what happened to the Portillo majority. The grays spacenapped all his support.

Meanwhile, in the West Country the issue of Rudloe Manor, the notorious Wiltshire government UFO base has been much discussed of late. According to the Wootton Bassett Gazette on 6 March 1997 Kerry Philpott at the MoD had written to confirm the following; 'In the past Rudloe Manor was indeed the RAF coordination point for reports of 'unexplained' aerial sightings. However, nowadays Rudloe Manor, along with other RAF stations, forward such reports directly to (Air Staff 2A). I can confirm that RAF Rudloe Manor does not carry out any research into UFOs or any related material.'

But at least they did better than the Liverpool Post who tried to talk to Air Staff 2A and got told by a silly twit at the MoD - "The office is run by a woman but I can't tell you anything more about her...We get asked about the office quite a lot. There seems to be an obsession with UFOs.'

So remember - my revelation of Kerry Philpott's name above is top secret and you risk the wrath of the Official Secrets Act if you have the temerity to mention it to anyone else. Right? Have the MoD never heard of the folly of making a simple matter seem complicated and creating conspiracy theories purely through bureaucratic nonsense like this?

Now that we have a new government and a promised working party for a future Freedom of Information Act things may change

in the not too distant future. Stop those giggles at once!

MoD CAT OUT OF THE BAG

In June my book "MIB" (Men in Black) appears from Piatkus (with a US edition from St Martin's Press coming soon after). This looks at the tricky question of witnesses who allege that mysterious strangers - intent on suppressing the truth regarding UFOs - have threatened them. Who are these people? Are they cranks, or aliens in disguise, or covert government agents, I assess the options along with some of the intriguing cases.

The idea that MIB may come from some secret government agency that delves into UFOs has always been denied by the MoD. They say that Air Staff 2A is all there is and the clerks in that office never leave their desk to chase (let alone harass) witnesses. Nick Pope insists that this is true as well.

Of course, we have long suspected that defence intelligence agencies and government scientific units also study UFOs. The infamous 'distribution list' referred to on the previous page identified such locations as receiving copies of UFO reports sent to Air Staff 2A - in some cases more copies than 2A got themselves. But their files and their activities have until now been missing from the records - despite occasional references in the PRO data if you know where to look.

However, Nick Redfern reports on the surprise breakthrough that emerged in the new batch of case files released onto the PRO at Kew in early 1997. These cover the period to mid 1966 (because of the 30 year rule delaying release of data) and include a report on a well known UFO case from the north west.

This case is well known because it made the press at the time and BUFORA interviewed the principal witness and built up a case file. What was not known back in 1966 was the role that the MoD played in this matter. It was surprisingly substantial.

Presumably the records were released because the existence of the case could not be denied. It was too well known that it had been reported through official channels and its absence from the PRO would have been very apparent. One has to wonder whether in other instances - where news of the encounter never gets into the public domain - the records that show a defence intelligence agency involvement

are conveniently routed away from public release onto the PRO.

Perks of the job

According to the BUFORA case file-which I had actually evaluated as part of my new post on council in 1975 - the witness was 28 year old Cheshire police constable Colin Perks. He was on patrol at Wilmslow at around 4.10 am on the night of 7 January 1966. He was near shops on the A34, close to the Rex Cinema.

Suddenly he was alerted by a high pitched whining noise. He turned to see what it was and spotted a large object (the size of a bus) hovering at roof top height, or just above. It was in the shape of an ellipse with a dome on top and flattened base - surrounded by a greenish/grey glow that he described as 'eerie'.

The officer watched for about 5 seconds and then the object streaked away at great speed towards the south east. There was no change in the pitch of the whining as it did so. He said the noise was like nothing he had ever heard but akin to a very odd electric motor. He was adamant that this was some kind of craft or machine.

The electrified railway line was very close to this location but PC Perks was positive that this was not responsible. He was so baffled that he reported the matter officially via Jodrell Bank radio telescope and Manchester Airport -neither of whom offered explanations. The Airport advised him they were making a report to the Air Ministry in London. The sighting was reported in the press on 3 March, after PC Perks was cleared to talk. There was a passing reference to the MoD sending somebody to interview him. But that was it. Perks did not refer to this at all in his letter to BUFORA nor the report form that he filled out on 1 May 1966.

Intriguingly the BUFORA case file that I adopted had concluded that this case was explained. Notes dated November 1966 signed by the then investigations team stated that it was regarded as a probably bolide (ie a large meteor).

My task was to code all of the thousands of BUFORA cases into one of four categories (red, orange, yellow and green) with red being positively explained and green a very likely real UFO. I was unwilling to accept the bolide solution - partly because of the hovering and the noise. More significantly I found another case in the files that appeared to support Perks sighting. They had not been linked before.

The witness was unsure if the date was the 7th or the 26th January. But from the location, description and time (about 4.30 am) I think we are justified in suspecting it was the 7

In this case the witness was a 52 year old woman from Wilmslow who saw the object through her bedroom window. H was described as 'luminous green' and stationary at first before moving off at '70

mph' and vanishing within a few seconds. From her sketch - drawn for DIGAP before she saw PC Perks offering - there seems little doubt this was the same object .



PC Perks UFO



Second Witness

In my note for BUFORA I concluded that the second sighting appeared "very consistent" and re-evaluated the case as unidentified. Five years later BUFORA research director, Tony Pace, added a note backing my judgement

This case is obviously interesting - but it is by no stretch of the imagination unusual or even spectacular. Nobody at the time seems to have paid heed to the press note that the MoD were interested enough to visit Perks.

Now to the new findings. Nick Redfern is to be congratulated for discovering the 20 page MoD file only days after its '30 year rule' declassification in January 1997. It contained press reports, Perks statement (very similar to his BUFORA one), support from his commanding officer, and the one page memo forwarded from Manchester Airport making the official report

The MoD distribution of the case shows- as true of more recent sightings - that the file went not only to S4f (the 1966 equivalent of Air Staff 2A) - but to a Defence Intelligence unit called DI 61. In 1987 the distribution list shows files going to DI 55 possibly the current name for this same unit.

DI 61 got four copies of the report - not simply the one sent to S4f. Exactly the same was noted in the more recent distribution list affair -strongly inferring that 2A (like S4f) is not the key home for UFO data. Most importantly, DI 61 responded in a way not found in other PRO files on earlier cases- although strongly suspected in many other cases where witnesses tell us they have been visited by government agents. In those instances we can never prove it. Air Staff 2A say 'we did not do it'. Here - at last - we have documented proof that a visit was indeed made.

DI 61 sent an agent to visit PC Perks in Wilmslow on 1 February 1966. They even conducted an on site survey and noted the discovery of a glassy substance here the morning after the sighting. Although they considered this unlikely to be relevant Nick Redfern was impressed by this quality of investigation.

The organisation also requisitioned radar files, but seem to have found nothing that tied in with the UFO.

On 18 February Right Lieutenant Mercer of DI 61 concluded- that the single witness nature of the

report made it, difficult to evaluate. He resisted speculating but noted that if a scientific investigation team were present at the time of such a sighting it would 'probably be quite easily explained'.

As Nick Redfern concludes from this revelation the MoD party line that they never send people around to interrogate witnesses is now proven to be just as dubious as their previously discredited argument that there is no department beyond Air Staff 2A that conducts research into UFOs. Their lies have been rumbled and exposed in a very public manner.

Nick asks whether we now must reassess those claims about 'Men in Black' visitations. As my book will I think demonstrate this discovery could hardly be more timely. From case after case I had to conclude that MIB really do exist and I think we are on the brink of opening up a considerable can of worms when we ask major questions about them.

For example, it is not merely MoD officers making polite inquiries of witnesses. The tales from those who have been visited indicate rather more disturbing scenarios of coercion, disappearing evidence and role play of the most bizarre kind. If we are to believe what they tell us then someone is playing games with very sinister purposes in mind. Moreover, we have to ask what it was about the Wilmslow sighting that caused the MoD to act? DI 61 (or 55) do not rush out to interview every witness - even police officers. There was no physical evidence such as a photograph to procure. Why were they so attracted to what appears to be a routine case? As my book shows this question keeps on recurring.

I see fascinating similarities between this January 1966 case and the November 1967 double car stop at Sopley, Hampshire. The MoD allegedly put the truck driving witness into a hotel to afford their investigation but today deny this story. Next year at the PRO we might just find out whether that is yet another lie.

PEAK MALPRACTICE

Did a UFO crash on the moors?

On the night of Monday 24 March 1997 I was in the garden of my home at Dove Holes gazing across the Peak District Hills to the north. I was there looking at the comet Hale-Bopp, which was especially bright on what was a clear evening. I noticed an unusual amount of aircraft activity cavorting about the skies - both jets heading into Manchester and assorted light planes drifting overhead I never gave it a second thought. But fate was to lend a hand as I decided to call it a night and go inside to watch TV. I missed what happened next about eight miles to the north east no more than an hour later!

On the Derbyshire / South Yorkshire border in the moorland between the High Peak and Sheffield something was stirring that was to lead to a massive air rescue operation and, ultimately, tales of a UFO crash. Just after 10 pm a couple gazing at the comet were distracted by strange plane as they drove across the moors south of Stocksbridge (scene of several recent paranormal and UFO incidents). This moved across the sky and plunged silently to earth with a plume of smoke and orange fire.

They were joined by a number of other witnesses from the scattered villages surrounding Ladybower Reservoir. One woman - a former special police constable - reportedly could not hear the plane and it was some distance away towards the moor. But I could definitely see an aircraft. It was flying very low as if to come into land and then disappeared behind some trees. It is mind boggling. What I saw was not a ghost, it was a plane.'

As a result of the various reports the Peak District Mountain Rescue launched a full scale search for what it assumed to be a downed aircraft. Teams from Glossop joined and there was a massive search team with tracker dogs and two helicopters launched from RAF Leconfield. They focused on the region between Langsett and Woodhead - the apparent impact zone

It was soon clear that no aircraft was missing, but the search resumed the following day. It was abandoned when nothing was found

This case is intriguing in that it has generated no fewer than three explanations!

The most likely would seem to be that (his was a fireball meteor. The smoke trail, orange fire, and so on. seem to support that

possibility. What does not fit quite so readily is the claim by several witnesses that they definitely saw an aircraft.

A seismology unit in Edinburgh recorded the sound of a tremor at 10.06 which was akin to 'a sonic boom that could have only been made by Concorde, a military jet at low altitude, or a bolide.' Fireball meteors do cause wake turbulence in the atmosphere and if it had impacted into the moorland this is a pretty desolate area and the search is unlikely to have revealed much evidence unless it was obvious. If only a small impact crater was left behind then it may well be that the influx of summer tourists and fell walkers will be required to unearth the fact from this large region. We shall see.

The second solution is paranormal, but none UFO related. Indeed, on the 1996 series of 'Strange but True?' we had actually carried a feature on the 'ghost aircraft of the Dark Peak'. This stems from a May 1945 crash of a Lancaster bomber which ploughed into the peak and killed six people who had survived the bombing raids of the just concluded war against Hitler.

There have since been persistent reports of a phantom aircraft gliding silently across the sky and falling onto the moors. The rerun of the 1945 accident has even provoked some tales of ghostly pilots in WW II flying gear wandering the peak as if lost in some limbo. Locally this is the most common belief as to what happened on 24 March. The ghost plane has returned. However, UFOlogists are suggesting otherwise. There is a growing mood that the 'crashing plane' was really a UFO. This is supported - they say - not merely by the Edinburgh readings, but also by the story of two UFO buffs from Sheffield.

Requiring anonymity (Dave Newton of NUFORI reports) these two men saw the ubiquitous black triangle hovering over Dronfield projecting beams of light onto the hills. This was at 9.45 pm - just before the impact. It was supposedly 200 feet across with a light at each apex and a huge blue light beneath. According to the story of these men -but not supported, so far as I tell, no fewer than six RAF Tornado jets appeared and chased the triangle. Then helicopters arrived. But this lot did not come near Dove Holes. Military planes often cross the Peak and I always take note. These two men reputedly pursued the triangle and its military entourage along the A57 (Snake Pass) road towards High Peak, hoping to find

the crash site of the UFO - since by now the 'explosion' had been observed in that direction and it was assumed the UFO had come down. Instead they ran into a road block and were turned back. They also later heard about alleged radar trackings and an alert at the Sheffield hospital in which staff were told to expect victims from an air crash.

So - what are we to make of all this? I do not see anything odd in the road block. The Snake Pass is often closed during the winter as it is a treacherous road over the High Peak, in any case the mountain rescue were by then scouring the moors for signs of the reported air crash and this was probably the vehicles that the men encountered. It seems very reasonable to have put the nearest hospital on alert when the expectation clearly was that an air crash might well have taken place and there could be survivors.

As for the story about the big triangle, we can only trust to the word of the witnesses. But why are they declining to go public with their sighting? As UFOlogists they must know the effect this will have on the credibility of their story. If there was any other evidence to back them up it would be more- intriguing. As it is it remains a curiosity.

I would doubt that the crash of a 200 foot wide triangle in the moors could be retrieved and covered up so rapidly. The area would surely be kept under wraps for days. In the intriguingly similar Llandrillo affair from January 1974 big wigs from London descended on what is a rather more desolate location and sealed off the mountain for a week. Yet there were dozens of people scouring the Peak in March looking for the reported air crash and most of these were civilian volunteers.

This does not quite jell. The UFO crash seems to me to be the least likely explanation and we must choose between the bolide offered by the Edinburgh seismological unit and the media's beloved phantom plane.

What of the Mountain Rescue team? Their conclusion is most illuminating. Controller Phil Shaw is certain the object was a plane - and not a ghost plane either. 'It was probably someone in a light aircraft doing something illegal,' he says. 'If he knew the area like the back of his hand he could have disappeared down a valley and vanished into the night.'

BOOKS OF THE MOMENT*Weird Year 1996**128pp by Joe MacNally & James**Wallis Pub by:- John Brown*

A new venture from the ever expanding stable of Fortean Times (FT), this one is a popularised version of something I attempted a few years ago with "The Paranormal Year - 1993" (and which - if I recall - FT rubbished at the time!) That book bombed, so they were not wrong. Anyhow, it seems like a good idea never dies - it just gets done by those with money behind the venture - which Hale never had.

Actually, this is far from being a bad stab at the concept - although it is rather tied to extracts from the years issues of FT and these are themselves often just culled from the (ever so reliable) news media out there. This is its one serious flaw in my opinion.

The UFO pages, for example, focus on the Manchester Airport encounter. But there is no reasoned debate. All we get are rehashed clippings from the tabloids and local press which - as so often - give a hardly in-depth (or in this case very objective) presentation. That needs addressing in future editions of the book. There are parts written by researchers. I was asked at the very last minute to fill in a missing two-page spread on abductions. The likes of Dave Langford and Karl Shuker contribute short pieces within their repertoire. But this could be much expanded in my view.

It is all very colourful and breezy with double page spreads (and the odd longer item) covering the vast array of topics you'd expect to see in FT (from Attacks by madmen to Zoological wonders). If you have all the FT issues involved it may not contribute much that's new, but as a diary of the years weird it is fun.

Unfortunately, being published for the Christmas market and written mid year means that it really covers 1995 and only part of 1996, not as the title infers. However, it needs somewhat more of an attempt to broaden it out into real reviews of the year by relevant researchers. Add these to the undeniably slick presentation and ported surveys of the year (and even quizzes at the back!) and this would be a nice book for just £7.99 in large format softback.

Randles Rating 70%*Fortean Studies Volume 3 384pp edited by Steve Moore Pub by:-John Brown*

An entirely different kettle of fish from FT. Now in its third edition this is quite superb and indispensable to all serious researchers.

There are two halves to this book. The final 50 pages are a massive set of indexes for the 1995 issues of FT. You get so many of them you will never struggle to find what you seek. Places, people, books, events, topics, etc. Yet -oddly - there never seems to be an index of the Fortean Studies Book itself. Why on earth not?

The other 300 odd pages comprise original research papers on a fantastic assortment of topics. Neil Nixon once more presents his in depth look at UFO trends and patterns. This is always a highlight. But when you bear in mind there are also articles on super emus by Karl Shuker, British screaming skull legends by Andy Roberts and Dave Clarke, a review of a New England UFO flap in 1908 and lots, lots more FT type material you know you are in for a treat.

This book provides the sort of reasoned commentary that the FT magazine is not really suited for. As such it will appeal more to serious researchers. It is not cheap-at £19.99 for a large format softback. But for any paranormalist this represents a worthwhile investment.

Randles Rating 90%*ETs and UFOs -Are they real?**86pp by Larry Kettlelamp Pub: Morrow*

Despite the very naff title and dubious cover of a rather scary alien this is a childrens book on UFOs which is intriguing. Indeed it was one of Kettlekemp's earlier books (many moons ago) that I recall reading in my novice days. So they do have a lasting effect.

It is fascinating to compare his book from a quarter of a century ago with this 1990's version. It shows massively how UFOlogy (or rather American UFOlogy) has changed. Abductions and implants and such topics fill the pages alongside gruesome drawings of assorted grays. I have serious doubts as to whether it is proper to let children see this stuff. How many future abductees will this book create?

There is some reasonable coverage of top cases - eg Roswell, Rendlesham, Belgium, etc. But the ET bias is (as expected) daunting.

Randles Rating 40%

*Alien contact in 1930**Investigation by the NLUFOIG*

An 80 year old man (Philip) has described his encounter in 1930 in Haverigg on the Cumbrian coast. At the time he was just 13 and enjoying a summer stroll on the beach checking fishing lines with a friend.

As he walked back across the dunes towards the little house that was then his home he spotted 'the devil' - but noticed that it did not have a tail.

The entity was of average height and covered by reddish brown hair. Silver foil was covering the body around the waist and feet. The facial features were human but angular. At the sight of this weird being Philip fled.

He also reports that two days earlier when he was walking home from the cinema he and a group of about 20 others saw a 'comet' in the sky. In fact, it was quite different - being round with flames shooting from the back. It slowly sank towards the ground and then disappeared

As Philip notes; 'In those days we had not heard of flying saucers.' He adds that he would probably have forgotten about it but for the encounter with the hairy man soon afterwards. He insists that 'the being was not of this earth'.

Very probably the UFO was a fireball meteor - equally unknown to most ordinary folk in the days before TV and UFO debates. But as for the strange entity. Who knows?

*Aliens over Easingwold**24 February 1979 Easingwold.N. Yorks*

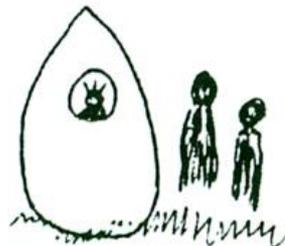
This date is firmly established as one of the most significant in the UFO annals of the north. Between 2 and 3 am that morning a UFO landed in a quarry at Bacup, Lancashire, and was then apparently chased across the county by a USAF F-111 jet. This streaked out to sea over the central pier in Blackpool where the security guard saw it pass by and then what seems to have been the UFO spiral upwards from under the ocean.

Officially there was a 'special exercise; involving military jets underway that night. But witnesses in the Rossendale Valley report how at breakfast time that day military aircraft buzzed the valley inspecting the previous nights landing site. According to witness Mike Sacks there was also evidence of a possible alien contact which caused him to see a portakabin in

the quarry that daylight revealed was not actually there. Now a Yorkshire investigative reporter has revealed a new case. It may well be of considerable importance. The witness was riding his motorcycle at about 8 am that Saturday. He was not far from the RAF base at Topcliffe - the one involved in the famous Operation Mainbrace sightings in September 1952 -which changed the course of British investigation. Indeed one of the ground witnesses here was in Easingwold.

Mr S claims that he had passed through Crayke village when he spotted the object above a field to his left. It was dark and triangular and it appeared to be hovering in full silence as if just about to land in the grass. Inside and behind the large rounded window within the craft a figure was crouched down. This sprung up as if alerted by the passage of Mr S on the otherwise deserted road.

The witness got off his motorbike to stare at the entity. It was now that he noticed two other beings beside the craft in the field. They had all seen him and 'some form of contact' ensued, but he cannot put into words what it was.



These beings were slim and tall and dressed in dark suits that covered them all over. The one inside the UFO appeared to have three spikes coming from the top of its head (or helmet). Mr S felt so overwhelmed by it all that he believes he just blocked out the experience. 'Suddenly my mind did not accept it any more and I got on my bike and took off for work.' He thinks he arrived later than usual but cannot recall properly as he kept trying to persuade himself that he had simply spotted an ordinary aircraft. But he knows it could not be as it hovered silently without disturbing the grass and yet he has an image of it streaking into the sky as he drove away. Its speed was amazing.

The image of the figures bending down, as if manipulating objects out of sight, and of the 'psychic bond' between entities and himself and of the UFO zooming skyward have all come via nightmares that began in 1990 and still continue

More Mid Air Contacts Report by Jim Sneddon

Jim Sneddon in Falkirk continues to monitor his air traffic control radio bandwidths for possible UFO activity. Once again things have certainly been happening.

On 29 April 1996 an RAF Tristar (or VC 10) was at 10 degrees West under the Isle of Man control at around 1 am when ATC asked the aircraft to look at half past eleven position range about 18 miles as the radar was showing an unusual target. They thought it might be weather of some -sort but the computer on the radar was not supposed to show weather targets. Nothing further was heard on the matter.

Then, at 22.25 on 3 August 1996 UK Air 2102 (a 146 jet) was flying 40 miles south of Edinburgh when it asked ATC for news of traffic at 10 o'clock position. Radar confirmed there was nothing visible but the pilot reported seeing 'a red light - we couldn't make out whether it was a beacon on an aeroplane or on the ground. Also it looked quite bright.' There were no further reports.

Moving to 18 September 1996 at 02.00 hours Granite 728 - a mail plane - was flying from Edinburgh to Kinloss. It was at 11,000 feet when the ATC was asked to check for traffic at 2 o'clock position. There was none. The discussion continued (unfortunately the aircraft was not recorded as it was using a different frequency). ATC suggested they might be seeing a planet, but added that they had three different radars in use and none were detecting a target at the position where the mail plane was evidently seeing something unusual.

Finally, another mail flight - ZAP 006 - was heading south from Edinburgh at 03.00 on 21 September 1996 when they asked if radar could see anything 'out of interest' at the nine o'clock position. ATC said; 'Negative - not even primary.' This did not satisfy the aircraft which then enquired whether 'SpadeAdam Range' (a military practice area) was active or not. ATC affirmed that it was - up to 20,000 feet - but reminded that they had nothing on radar. This provoked the response that maybe flares were being fired and the matter was dropped.

As these mid air sightings continue it is apparent through Jim Sneddon's sterling work just how often aerial encounters take place. Is there anyone out there in England who can do a similar exercise - recording ATC frequencies automatically each night for later checking?

Summer Fun

As this summer sees the 50th anniversary of the birth of UFOs you are going to have plenty to do. Indeed you will probably be sick to death of the subject come the autumn. Here are some of the things that are lined up during June, July and August.

There are simply shelves full of new books coming this summer. These include a few out already to be reviewed next issue and two referenced below. Then there is 'M I B' (from Piatkus) - my book on Men in Black cases - out in June. Nick Redfern's eagerly awaited 'A Covert Agenda' (about the PRO files) in September and Nick Pope's rather less eagerly awaited book about abductions ('The Uninvited') (apt that) - coming in June. There will be a book review special feature in the next bumper issue of NUN.

Early June sees the arrival of 'Left at East Gate' by Larry Warren and Peter Robbins. Published by Michael O'Mara this reports on Larry's alleged role in the famous Rendlesham Forest case. The other witnesses (eg Col Halt, John Burroughs, Jim Penniston et al) seem less than happy with Larry's different version of events and it will undoubtedly set the debate raging. But it is the first time that an eyewitness (or rather alleged eyewitness) has told his story in the first person. That - plus Nick Pope's endorsement for the book - is sure to guarantee its success.

I'll have a good deal more to say next time when reviewing this huge tome. But in the meantime O'Mara have set up an impressive tour list so that you can catch the authors and ask Warren directly all you ever wanted to know about Rendlesham. Details follow of dates and venues with phone numbers to contact for further information.

3 June 7.15 pm Edward Arnold Court Bedford
(01234-403461)

4 June 7.30 pm University of Surrey Guildford
(01483-821040)

6 June 7.30 pm Com Exchange Ipswich (01473-
211980)

7 June 11.00 am Woodbridge Books, Suffolk
6.00 pm Alderman Derbyshire School Bulwell,
Nottingham (0115 - 927 - 5623)

10 June 7.00pm Cardiff University (01222-793217)

14 June Afternoon Springfield Arms Leeds (0113-
279-7378)

15 June 3.00 pm Central Hall Liverpool (Part of BUFORA conference starting at noon with other speakers also) (0151 - 476 - 0356) 22 June Afternoon Imperial College, London (Part of Quest full day conference which includes other speakers) (01943 - 850860)

Starting on 22 June and running through to 28 June the ITV network stages their 'UFO Week' of programmes - highlighted by a 90 minute 'Strange but True? Live' debate at 8. 30 pm on 27 June.

Collins and Brown, who have published my book - 'Alien Contact' (an illustrated look at 50 years of alien encounters in real life, fiction and via scientific research) have set up a series of bookshop presentations. At these I will discuss what we know about alien contact today. Entrance costs about £2 typically and many of these involve getting your money back as a discount off the book. Each store will advise the details. All are evening events starting between 6 and 7 pm. Dates confirmed are as follows:-

24 June Dillons New Street Birmingham
25 June Dillons central Bradford 3 July
Booklands Chester
10 July Dillons central Nottingham
15 July Dillons St Annes Square Manchester
21 Aug Dillons central Liverpool

Quiz Time:

On Saturday 28 June the Staffordshire UFO Group have decided to run a quiz night. UFO groups around the UK are being invited to take part. Each will submit a set of questions from which the final questions will be randomly selected. Each team should have four people and a £100 prize will be awarded There will also be a buffet and disco. So even if you just want to go and watch it should be great fun. Irene Bott who is organising things hopes that it might become an annual event. £5 per head is the fee.

If you want to consider entering contact Irene at:-11 Sandy-Lane Rugeley Staffs WS15 2LB Tel:-01889-576 771

Golden Saucer Film Awards:

If this is not enough fun for one weekend the very next day (Sunday 29 June) sees 'The Golden Saucer Awards' being held at the Apollo Tatton Cinema in Galley, Stockport. Again there is a £5 entrance fee and four categories into which to enter either still (real or fake) or cine/ video (real or fake) shots of UFOs.

Each category will have its own 'Golden Saucer Award' (a title that can be stripped if it is later proven that evidence was knowingly entered into the wrong group!) So take care all you would be hoaxers. That is why there are fake categories for you to enter!!! You can, of course, come along just to watch the judging and see the entries. There will also be a UFO movie and I'll be giving an illustrated look at UFO photographs and films to date.

For entry forms (closing date 20 June) and other details call Rory Lushman at the Cinema on Galley Rd Tel: 0161 - 491 -0711

Coming soon:-

5 July Sci Tec 97 is to stage a UFO day as part of a week long series of science and technology events. To include lectures by Peter Hough. Philip Mantle. Jenny Randles and several scientists this full day event is at the Assembly Rooms in the Derby city centre. For details call the Sci Tec hotline :- 01332-343443
5/6 July at the Piccadilly Hotel in central Manchester this years big X Files convention. Speakers include TVs 'Deep Throat', Nick Pope and Jenny Randles and many others.
3 August at the Apollo Tatton in Galley (as before) - Men In Black day. Launch of the new movie (release 1 August) and MIB lectures from Eric Morris. Matthew Williams. Jenny Randles.

Northern UFO Network Groups in the region

SPI 29 Kent Rd Alloa Scotland FK102JN
SEMR 35 Fountain Rd Bridge of Allan FK9 4AU
SRUFO 129 Langton Vw East Colder EH3 ORE
NUFOR1 14 Longhirst Drive Newcastle NE136JW
Connect 5 Slocks Hill Menston Ilkley LS29 6ND
NLUFOIG 89 Dare Lane Morecambe LA4 6RN
LAPIS 293 Devonshire Rd Blackpool FY2 OTW
MARA 52 Hawthorne Ave Liverpool L26 9XD
NARO * 6 Silden Av Lowton Warrington WA3 1EN
PRA 94 The Circle Sinfin Derby DE24 9IIR
EMUFORA 8 Roosa Close Nottingham NG6 7BL
Dragon 24 Nab Hill Drive Leek Staffs ST13 SEE
SUFOG 11 Sandy Lane Rugeley Staffs. WS15 2LD
Parasearch 79 Sandringham La Stourbridge DY8 5HL
Federation PO Box 43 Rhyl North Wales LL18 1YW
IUFOPRA PO Box 3070 Whitehall Dublin 9 Ireland

*NUFON files are located in central Manchester and accessible for research. Contact NARO for details.