

YUFOS
YORKSHIRE UFO SOCIETY

PROJECT RED BOOK

(Vol 6, # 6, February 2003)



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AN INTERVIEW WITH RAY FOWLER
SUB ROSA: PART 3
THE JENNY RANGLES COLUMN

And much more...

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YUFOS



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"It can't rain all of the time..."

INTERVIEW WITH RAYMOND E. FOWLER

ALIENS, ABDUCTIONS, AND THE ANDREASSON AFFAIR

BY DANIEL V. BOUILLION

(Editor's note: I first came into contact with Dan Boudillion after reading his article on the Mothman/Thunderbird artefact on his website. When I requested permission to publish the Mothman article, (Vol. 6 #4) Dan offered this unpublished interview, which was originally prepared for the web-journal of the Massachusetts chapter of MUFON.)

DAN: Ray, with 5 books on the Andreasson affair, you and your name have become inexorably linked with it. I find it suggestive that in the end the same thread of buried contact memories may have run a parallel course through your life as well. Are your and Betty Andreasson Luca's experiences linked at some deeper level beyond coincidence? If so, what do you think its all about and where do you think its all going?

RAY: I don't know. I do know that I was attracted to her case not only because Dr. Hynek referred it but also because she is a Christian. Initially I was interested in how a Christian would process an abduction experience. Also, and importantly, it was my exposure to her childhood contact and abduction experiences that once again triggered memories of similar childhood experiences and my future exploration of them. Along the way there have been a number of parallel coincidences including our receiving the typical scoop marks during the same week and told by the entities that we were going to do something important for mankind. Re the latter, other than my books and investigation reports, I have not done anything earthshaking for mankind.

DAN: Your research indicates that there is a definite thread of contact that runs through families and spans generations. It is also known that psychic ability is an inherited trait. Could this be part of the reason contact runs within in families, and certain families are chosen over others – or would you attribute it to something else? I'd like to know your thoughts on this.

RAY: It is hard to say. There are many who never had psychic abilities until they had a UFO experience. There are others that had psychic abilities prior to a UFO experience. Perhaps the former had a UFO experience but do not remember it. One thing is sure and that is for that or another reason (perhaps genetic

research) abduction experiences run in families.

DAN: You have stated that the Elders (the tall entities) "retain a human shape or can transform themselves into beings of light". What do you think the true shape of their being is, and what do they really consist of?

RAY: I really don't know. I have speculated that they and the so-called Watchers are able to move from what we call physical to what we call wave. Some quantum physicists are saying that matter at the subatomic level appears as both particle and wave. It only becomes particle when the mind observes it. Somehow, like Star Trek, they seem to be able to be transformed from matter to wave or, wave to matter (beam me up Scotty!). It would appear that their wave existence exhibits itself as a ball of light. I think that the Elders maybe are what we eventually are going to be and exist where we are going to be. They look similar to us.

DAN: You state that the Watchers (the gray entities) are bio-electric robots, and that according to their own words are really another form of Homo Sapiens. This said, I can't help but wonder if we humans aren't some form of bio-electric robot as well – perhaps one gone free-range? What do you think of this idea? Also, what are the fundamental similarities between us than them, and what are the differences?

RAY: I really do not know. It is possible. According to what was told Betty, the Watchers are mature human fetuses that have been programmed by the Elders to carry out specified tasks in our so-called physical world.

DAN: Betty Andreasson Luca reports in one of your books that the gray Watcher entities told her they love the human race. I find this at odds with the predominance of reports that reflect that these beings are incapable of any emotions at all. Indeed, this is often reported

as one of the most frightening traits of the entities. What are your views on this?

RAY: Perhaps love for them translates into concern for our well being. Imagine that a military aircraft carrying germ warfare canisters makes a crash landing on a remote island inhabited by primitive people. Some of the canisters break open and there is a medical threat to these people. Concurrent with a rescue, military medical personnel fly to the island from an aircraft carrier. Can you imagine the fear on the part of the natives when white-suited masked entities forcefully round them up and force them to be vaccinated with steel needles. Some are flown to the aircraft carrier's hospital and are subjected to other instruments. I'm sure that after it was all over the natives would look back in horror at what had taken place. They would not realize our great humanitarian concern for their health and the danger of their spreading the diseases generated by the germ warfare canisters. As far as they were concerned, a huge bird-like thing fell from the sky followed by devils or spirits arriving in bird-like things that in turn captured them and stuck them with needles, etc. before leaving. Perhaps this is analogous to what is going on re the abduction phenomenon. Remember that the Watchers told Betty that "mankind was going to become sterile" and that there seems to be a symbiotic connection between them and us. Perhaps their survival depends upon our survival. I will discuss this further in question 8.

DAN: Are we narrowing ourselves by conceptualizing UFOs as simply physical objects? John Keel went so far as to speculate that the UFO objects were actual beings themselves. What do you think of this? What's your opinion?

RAY: Most certainly. Even some radar/visual sightings indicated that UFOs materialize and dematerialize. Radar might pick up a hard return from a UFO seen at point A. Then, the UFO seems to pop out of view and pop in view again at point B with no visual or radar-detected flight path observed between A and B. Also, UFOs may not be constructed of living tissue but might be a highly advanced representation of artificial intelligence that is able change its function and shape and be operated via the intelligent minds of its operators.

DAN: In *The Andreasson Legacy*, you referred to UFOs as "technology wed to spirit" – maybe spirit is the technology? If this is

even partially true, how should we refocus our approach to UFOs in general and investigations in specific?

RAY: In question 3 I indicated that matter at the subatomic level may not exist as particle unless it is observed by mind. There are reports that some persons have the ability to affect so-called physical objects by their minds. In question 6 I speculated that UFOs may be operated in this way. I have read reports that our government is experimenting with this prospect in a very rudimentary way for fighter pilots. Betty was told that their technology was wed to spirit. This is what may have been meant. I do not know how this could cause us to refocus our approach to UFOs and investigations other to surmise that our thoughts can be monitored by the UFO entities and that it is possible that some of us who are investigating are being monitored by what/who we are investigating as part of a study or perhaps a conditioning process.

DAN: If the beings and objects are indeed para-physical, what unseen world or dimension are they from, and how do we take this aspect into account when conducting our investigations, Ray?

RAY: I point out in *The Watchers II* that some Near Death Experiences and UFO abductions experiences would be hard to tell apart. Dr. Kenneth Ring states that some persons that have had an NDE report being in a craft in outer space and being confronted with similar entities to the robed human-like Elders. Similar entities are reported in normal NDES and in ancient and modern so-called religious experiences. This being the case, one could speculate that UFOs and the entities that operate them come from that same domain/dimension that persons having a NDE experience enter and return from. In *The Andreasson Legacy* I speculate that human beings are a larval form of the so-called Elders and we, like a herd of cattle are being cared for and maintained until we die and enter the reality in which they dwell. This might be analogous to dragonflies in the world of air warning and operating upon their larval forms in a world of contaminated water in order to secure their own survival. Probably a bit more complicated than that but basically no larvae = no dragonflies.

DAN: Specifically, how do we test for the para-physical? Do we need to develop new tools or new attitudes? I would appreciate your advice in the matter.

RAY: I have not idea how to test for the parapsychical. We are limited to measuring the size, shape, weight, speed and various effects upon humans, animals, and environment of UFOs that manifest themselves in a physical form. However, our attitude should be that of having an open mind to cases that involve reported parapsychical phenomena.

DAN: Reading in the May 2002 issue of the national *MUFON UFO Journal*, author and investigator Barry Downing states: "When we are doing UFO and alien research, we are facing some kind of power. A big power." I'd like your comments on this statement.

RAY: Barry Downing equates "A big power" with the God of the Judeo-Christian tradition.

DAN: There is an evolutionary trend over the course of your books from a nuts and bolts perspective to a willingness to entertain paranormal aspects of the phenomena. How did this come about? Was there any one pivotal event that brought about this change of perspective?

RAY: At one time, I was a fundamentalist Christian but since have expanded my theology. I had dismissed anything paranormal experienced by myself or my family as being Satanic. In my early days as a UFO investigator, I rejected a UFO report that contained any type of psychic phenomena. I also felt that UFO witnesses who reported such were mentally unstable. However, it became apparent that credible persons were reporting incredible things that were similar to what my family, especially my father, had and were experiencing. My mind and theology gradually broadened to accept the paranormal aspects of the UFO phenomena. I might add that when I did this, I began to experience such phenomena on a more regular basis.

There was one event which, although not pivotal that affected me greatly. During the week that Betty and I both received the typical "scoop marks", I believe that I saw myself in the future. I entered the half cellar one-day and saw a ghostly figure with a white shirt and black dress pants come out from behind the furnace and walk toward the cellar stairs. I could not see the face and thought that I must be seeing a ghost. It was only later that one day, getting ready for a wedding that I dressed in a white dress shirt and black trousers and went behind the furnace to get something from the freezer and took exactly the same path as the entity did that I suddenly realized that I had

seen myself. This same phenomenon has also happened on another occasion but the two events took place only minutes apart. These events plus others have made me think that time really does not exist and that all that we have done is still occurring and what we are going to do is already happening although what we do now might be altering it as we move along experiencing what we call time in a sequenced manner. This is perhaps why the Watchers told Betty that time is "localized".

DAN: You are currently writing your 10th book. What will this one be about? We would like to get an idea of where your current investigations are taking you.

RAY: My last book is sort of a "tell-all" autobiography of my investigations and experiences. Hopefully it is written in such a way that it will help those who are going through abduction experiences and assist researchers in understanding and investigating such experiences. [*UFO Testament: Anatomy of an Abductee* - now in print.]

DAN: What is the most important message or insight you'd like to pass on after a lifetime of UFO research?

RAY: That UFOs, NDEs and so-called psychic phenomena are individual expressions of an all encompassing metaphenomenon that is generated from another reality into our world, which is but a shadowy reflection of that other reality.

Dan: What single most valuable piece of advice would you most like to pass on to new UFO investigators?

RAY: UFO investigators should to their utmost to be totally objective and not reject out of hand the high strangeness aspects of the UFO phenomenon that do not reflect the prejudices of one's personal belief system.

DAN: Ray, I appreciate your taking the time for this interview - its been an honor. Here is one last question: After almost 40 years studying and investigating the UFO phenomena, why do they still interest you?

RAY: Attempting to solve the UFO mystery has continued to expand my concepts of reality especially after discovering that I have been and continue to be part and parcel of the mystery itself. I love a mystery!

A final comment from Ray:

I'm afraid that most strictly nut and bolt oriented researchers will reject much of what I said out of hand. I certainly would have done so earlier in my life. Also, I would like to get any comments from readers if possible. (Please see below for Ray's email address.)

About Ray Fowler:

General: Raymond E. Fowler was born in Salem, Massachusetts and received a B.A. degree (magna cum laude) from Gordon College of Liberal Arts. His career included a tour with the USAF Security Service and twenty-five years with GTE Government Systems as a Senior Planner for the Minuteman Intercontinental Missile Program. Ray directs his own planetarium and observatory and teaches courses on Astronomy and UFOs at North Shore Community College.

Credentials: Ray Fowler's contributions to UFOlogy are respected by UFO researchers throughout the world. Reports of his UFO investigations have been published in: Congressional Hearings on UFOs, military publications, newspapers, magazines and professional journals in the USA and abroad. Astronomy Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Chief Scientific Consultant for the USAF UFO Projects called Raymond Fowler. "An outstanding UFO investigator ... I know of no one who is more dedicated, trustworthy or persevering." Ray has served as an early warning coordinator for the USAF-contracted Colorado University UFO Study and as the Director of Investigations for the International Mutual UFO Network [MUFON].

TV/Radio Appearances: Ray has been a guest on hundreds of radio and TV shows in the U.S.A. since 1963 including: Dave Garroway, Dick Cavett, Mike Douglas, *Good Morning America*, *Unsolved Mysteries*, *Sightings*, and has been a consultant to TV UFO Documentaries and Time-Life Books.

Author: Ray has 10 books on UFOs published in the USA between 1974 and 2002. Many of them have also been reprinted in foreign languages. His most recent and final book is *UFO Testament: Anatomy of an Abductee*.

Signed copies of Ray's books may be obtained by writing: Ray Fowler, 249 Maguire Road,

Kennebunk, ME 04043 USA. (207-985-6628)
Email: eyeleth@prexar.com

Books by Raymond E. Fowler:

UFO Testament: Anatomy of an Abductee
Alagash Abductions
Andreasson Affair
Andreasson Affair Phase Two
Andreasson Legacy
Casebook of a UFO Investigator
Melchizedek Connection
UFOs: Interplanetary Visitors
Watchers
Watchers II

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Daniel V. Boudillion: dvb@boudillion.com

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 11th March 2003

7:00pm- 10:00pm

THE OLD
QUEEN'S HEAD

Pond Street

Sheffield City Centre

THE HUNT FOR THE BOLAM "BEAST"

A PRELIMINARY REPORT.

17-21st January 2003

by Jonathan Downes and Richard Freeman (CFZ)

NOTE: This is only a very preliminary report. We will be receiving more photographs and sketch maps over the next days and weeks, and will also be transcribing the witness interview tapes. The *Twilight Worlds* Paranormal Research Group based in South Shields have also been investigating the phenomena at Bolam, and although we collaborated on a small part of our investigations, we would suggest that you make regular checks on their website when it resumes to see the latest news.

This investigation could not have been possible without the help of Geoff Lincoln whose excellent website British Hominid Research covers the gamut of British man-beast sightings in far more depth than we do here.

Ray Wallace, one of the most controversial figures in American cryptozoology, died in November. In 1958 his construction company had been working at Bluff Creek in California. One of his employees found strange footprints apparently belonging to a giant ape. As veteran American Fortean Loren Coleman wrote in Wallace's obituary:

"Wallace was to be involved with the local tales of hairy giants for the rest of his life. Allegedly in the later in the 1950s, for example, Wallace offered to sell Texas millionaire Tom Slick a captured Bigfoot. Wallace failed to produce the creature when Slick came up with an offer. Down through the years, Wallace would carry on pranks, be tied to carved fake Sasquatch feet, and produce and try to sell dubious photographs and films. He was a great letter writer and would pen long passages to magazine editors about this photographs or telling of how he knew a Bigfoot was nearby guarding a mine full of gold. After awhile, most Bigfoot hunters and researchers took Wallace as merely a spinner of fanciful tall tales. Through his contributions to Strange Magazine, the Track Record, and indirectly to Fate Magazine, Wallace relished keeping his name in the limelight of the Bigfoot mystery."

Although it is indisputable that Wallace was responsible for some a pretty hefty hoaxing, in my opinion at least it would be facile to dismiss the whole Bigfoot phenomenon as merely been the result of one man's mischievous sense of humour. Tabloid newspapers, however, love to see things in a black and white and love it even more if they

can accompany it with a picture of a woman with big tits. Bigfoot is dead! Said the papers, and it was almost as if the phenomenon wanted to prove the legions of hack journalists wrong. Only two days after his death the first newspaper report in the UK surfaced describing an encounter with what some unknown media scribe described as "The Sherwood Forest Thing".

Scottish Fortean researcher Mark Fraser described the initial encounter:

The Sherwood Forest "Thing" has apparently been sighted for many years and has now become part of the local folklore. One day, after hearing about the creature, two men, along with two friends, took it upon their selves to actually go out and hunt "the thing" down. The four men drove deep into the forest and lay in wait for the creature.

After about an hour they heard the sound of heavy footsteps approaching. As the steps grew louder and closer, the driver switched the lights of the car off. In the darkness, the men could now see two glowing red eyes, at about 8 feet from the ground, moving towards them from the depths of the forest. As the eyes and footsteps moved closer to the men, fear finally took over. The companions deciding not to hang around, restarted their car and drove off. As the vehicle moved away, the men could just make out a large, dark shape move up into the trees.

And this was only the beginning. Over the next weeks and months the United Kingdom was to be the host for the biggest Flap of man beast

sightings ever recorded outside Asia, North America or possibly Australia.

Over Christmas Jon started collecting these stories, and when at the other members of the core CFZ faculty returned after their Christmas break, we had a reasonable size a dossier of sighting reports for them. His original plan had been to suggest a CFZ expedition to one of the hot spot of British BHM reports sometime in the early spring.

There has been a whole plethora off British BHM reports from Sussex, Lancashire, Cumbria, Staffordshire and Scotland as well as the aforementioned ones in Sherwood Forest. However, by far the most interesting were reports from a place called Bolam Lake Country Park in Northumberland. They were interesting because there were so many of them. Even as we were putting together plans for a trip to Sussex in March more and more reports were coming in from the Bolam Lake area and it seemed increasingly obvious that we would have to go and visit the place to investigate them for ourselves.

We liaised with Geoff Lincoln, an absolutely invaluable researcher. We gave him our planned arrival time, and asked him up to see if any of the eyewitnesses would be prepared to speak to us. Much to our delight five out of six were. I think it should be noted, here, that the 6th is a soldier and with the burgeoning situation in the Middle East spiralling rapidly out of control, it would be completely unreasonable to expect a serving military man to be at the beck and call of four loonies from the CFZ.



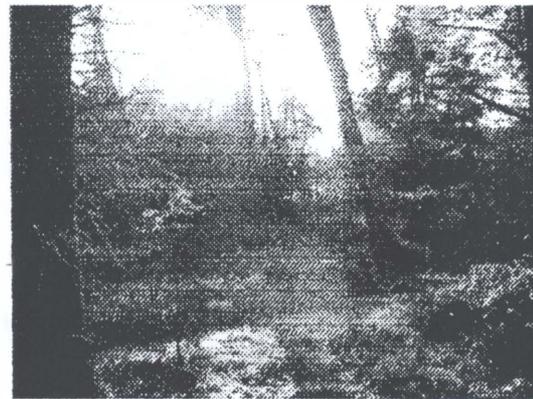
Geoff Lincoln shows the CFZ Team the location of the first sighting

Serendipitously, we were able to stay at a house owned by our Co. Durham representative, David Curtis. He and his wife Joanne were absolutely fantastic all the way through our sojourn in the North. The only sad

thing about our stay with them, was that Davy had to work most of the time and was not able to join us during most of our adventures.

This is not the time nor the place he gave a long, imaginative, travelogue style description of what was essentially a very tedious journey up the M1. However, we arrived in Seaham late on the Thursday night, and after a few pints at The Dordon Miner's Welfare Club across the road from our lodgings, we collapsed into our beds and prepared ourselves for the first proper day of our adventure.

After a series of fairly dull misadventures, we met Geoff Lincoln, and Gail-Nina Anderson (a member of the CFZ Board of Consultants), and we made our way in convoy to Bolam Lake itself. It would be nice to say that we were overwhelmed with a spooky feeling, or that the genius locii of the location was in some way redolent of Fortean freakiness. But it wasn't. It was just what one would expect from a heavily wooded country park in the North of England in the middle of January - cold, wet and grey.



The location of the first sighting



Another view of the same site. The arrow indicates where the eight-foot figure was seen

Geoff showed us three of the locations where these things had been reported. We carried out a thorough series of photographic mapping exercises, whilst Jon stayed back at the main car-park and did his best to fend off the incessant inquiries from the local press. Just after lunchtime a TV crew from Tyne-Tees Television turned up and filmed interviews with the investigation team. It was only after they had gone that we realised that something rather strange was happening.

Although we had tested all of our electronic equipment the night before, charged up batteries where necessary, and put new batteries in all of the equipment which needed them, practically without exception all of our equipment failed. My laptop, for example, has a battery, which usually lasts between 20 and 35 minutes. It lasted just three minutes it before conking out. Admittedly, I received an enormous number of telephone calls during our stay at the Lake, but not anywhere near enough to justify the fact that I had to change handsets four times in as many hours. The batteries in both Geoff's and our tape recorders also failed. It seemed certain that there was some strange electromagnetic phenomenon at work here.



Bolam Woods - the home of a monster?

Late afternoon we drove to a local pub where we met our first witnesses. Like all the other people we were to meet over the next few days they requested anonymity, and therefore in accordance with our strict confidentiality policy, we have respected this. Naomi, and her son had been visiting Bolam Lake only a few days before. Not believing any of the reports which had appeared in the local media, they were both appalled and frightened when - whilst walking across the car park itself - they had seen a huge creature standing motionless in the woods. They described experiencing an intense feeling of fear and trepidation, and rapidly left the area.

They were incredibly co-operative, and agreed it to come back to the lake with us the next day

to stage a reconstruction similar to those done on the BBC television programme *Crimewatch*.

Then we drove to South Shields where Jon gave a briefing to a detachment of from the *Twilight Worlds* Group who had kindly agreed to help us in our investigations on the next day.

Jon had a call time of 5.30 the next morning, and a taxi took him to a lay-by I 500 yards up the road from the Bolam Lake car-park, where he did a two and a half minute interview for the BBC Radio 4 Today programme. One thing of great importance happened during the half-hour or so he spent shivering by the side of road waiting to speak to the 'beeb'. Just before dawn the rooks which live in a huge colony in the woods started the appalling row which is presumably the corvid equivalent of the dawn chorus. Suddenly the noise stopped. Jon heard a brief succession of booming noises- like a heavily amplified heartbeat from a Pink Floyd record - before the rooks started up again. It is unclear whether these noises came from the vicinity of the lake itself or were made by the incredibly Heath-Robinson set-up of satellite dishes, and recording equipment which was loaded in the back of, and on top of the BBC man's car.

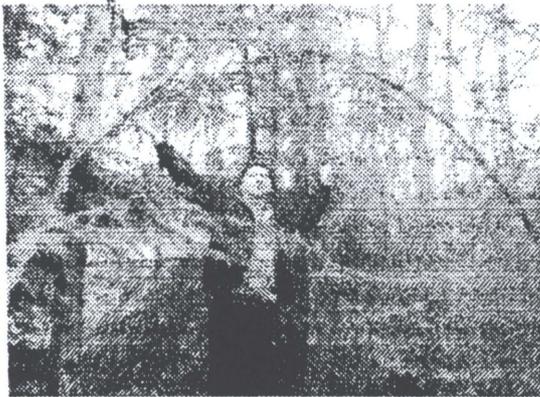
During the taxi journey back to Seaham the driver remarked on the peculiar behavior of the rooks, and said it that although he was a country man himself and had spent his whole life living in this area he had never heard anything quite like it.

No sooner had Jon arrived back at base, than it was time for the entire C F Z expeditionary force to drive to the outskirts of Newcastle where, we met Geoff and a second witness in a cafe attached to a garden centre. The witness, Neil, had been fishing at Bolam Lake one night four or for five years previously. Together with two companions he had been making his way back to the car-park when they encountered a huge, dark man shaped object about 8 ft in height with what he described as sparkling eyes. The three fishermen did not stop to investigate but ran back to the car. However, this was by no means the only encounter that Neil had got to report to us. Together with one of his companions from the first adventure he had again been night fishing at Bolam Lake during the summer of 2002. They had been camped out on this occasion, and had heard noises, which they assumed, were from an enormous animal moving around in the bushes outside their camp. Deciding, that, discretion was the better part of valor they decided not to

investigate but when they broke camp the next morning they found that fish in a bait tin had been taken, and there were signs that something very large had been moving around false the vicinity of their camp.

Possibly the most astounding story that he had to recount had taken place a couple of summers before our visit. He had been in the woods at the opposite side of the Lake with his girlfriend. They had been making love, when his girlfriend told him that that she could see we what she thought was a man in a monkey suit watching their sexual adventures intently from behind a bush. Neil, unsurprisingly looked around the area, but could find nothing.

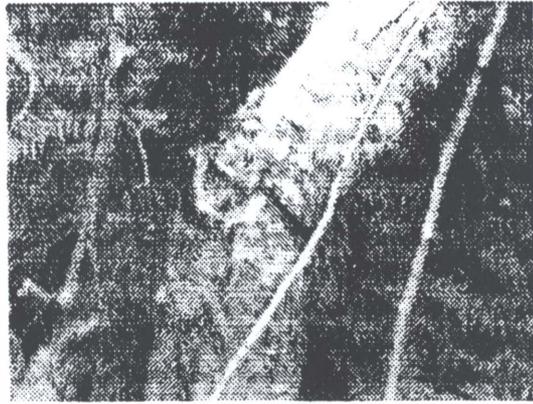
We then continued to the lake. Neil had been amazingly co-operative, and had, like Naomi, agreed to stage a reconstruction with us. At the lake we liaised with the team from *Twilight Worlds* and began a series of exercises, which but would take up the rest of the day. Geoff had noted, the previous week, a series of apparently artificial tree formations similar to those "Bigfoot Teepees" noted by researchers in the United States. A particularly good selection of photographs of such formations can be found on The Texas Wildman Project site.



Geoff points out one of the "teepees"



A close up of one of the "teepees"



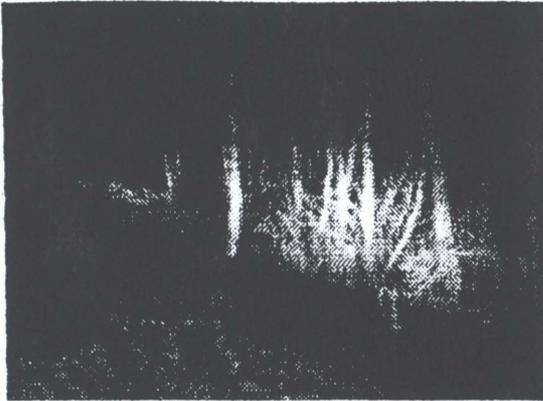
This tree trunk - with a diameter of approximately 5 inches appeared to have been wrenched into this position. It is unlikely that the cause was wind damage because surrounding foliage was unharmed.

Together with a team from, *Twilight Worlds*, Geoff and Graham went off to map these formations and make a photographic record. They also took with them a *Twilight Worlds* member trained in using their EMF meter, together with a dowser. After our electrical mishaps of the previous day, we wanted to find out whether there were, indeed, any abnormal EMF fields in the area. Neither investigator found any unusual readings.

Our next task was to stage a reconstruction of Naomi's a sighting. Again a full photographic and video record was made, and EMF readings were also taken. Again no unusual readings were made either by the EMF meter or the dowser. We then repeated the exercise with Neil and reconstruct his first sighting.

At about half-past four, one of the members of *Twilight Worlds*, reported seeing something large, human shaped and amorphous in the woods directly in front of the car park.

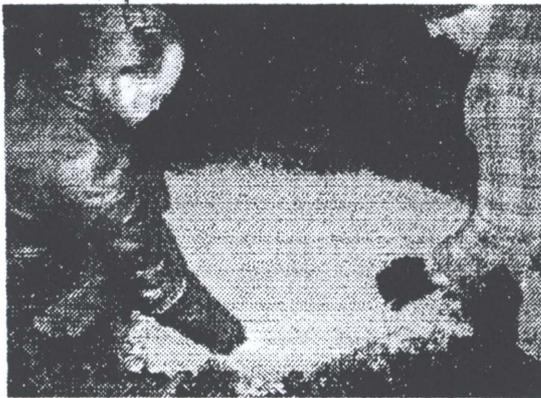
As the dusk gathered at about 5 o'clock, Jon again heard the raucous noise of the rooks that he had reported, just before dawn. Suddenly, once again, they fell silent and one of the *Twilight Worlds* members shouted that she could hear something large moving around amongst the undergrowth. Jon ordered all of the car drivers present to switch on their headlights and to put them on to full beam. He did not here any noise in the undergrowth although other people present did. Eight people were watching the woods and five of them, including Jon saw an enormous man shaped object run from right to left, disappear, and then a few moments later run back again.



An image taken seconds after the evening sighting

When the expedition returned on Monday, they conducted experiments to find out exactly how far away the creature - if it was a creature - was from the excited onlookers. Using Richard Freeman as a model, Jon made a fairly accurate estimate that the creature had been a hundred and 34 feet away from him at the time of his sighting. He also estimated or that the creature had run along a distance of between 12 and 18 feet.

About five minutes after his sighting, he wandered across the car-park to the location when Naomi had reported seeing the creature. There, he too, felt a sensation of intense fear and quickly returned to his companions.



Richard sets a sand-trap for footprints. unfortunately it was unsuccessful

After an incident like that, anything else would have been an anti-climax. However, Geoff Lincoln took the CFZ team to interview two further witnesses. The first was a young man living in the suburbs of Newcastle. Geoff and Richard visited him at his home and he told of his encounter with an enormous man shaped being next to a hollow tree in the woods, some months previously. The incident had taken place whilst he had been walking his dog. He had been so frightened by his experience that he refused to ever go near the lake again.



This witness reported his sighting near a hollow tree. John Fuller stands next to the tree stump for scale

Finally we went to another pub where we met another man called Neil. He had been with the first Neil at the time of his initial sighting. We were all impressed by his sincerity and by the way that he corroborated his friends' testimony in what seemed to us, at least, to be a very natural and uncontrived manner.

After a day off we returned to the lake on Monday morning. We carried out if so photographic survey of the final two sighting locations. We also carried out the aforementioned experiments to ascertain - as far as is possible - the size of the thing that had been seen on Saturday night, and also its distance from the eyewitnesses. As in both the dowsing and EMF scans had been remarkably unsuccessful, Mike Hallowell from *Twilight Worlds*, together with Graham Inglis and Richard Freeman tried to scan the area for magnetic anomalies using a pocket compass. Mike registered a strange magnetic anomaly at the location of the fisherman's first sighting. However, it must be reported, that when the team tried to replicate this later in the day, they were unsuccessful.



The location of the fishermen's second encounter

That evening, together with Gail and Geoff, we interviewed a final witness. A woman and her late Fifties, who had been visiting the lake about five years before with her son who was then 11 years old. Like Naomi, and Jon, she reported intense feelings of - not exactly hostility, but what she interpreted as a message not to investigate a peculiar tree formation any further. She discussed these tree formations at some length. Like Geoff, she had been surprised to find them at several locations throughout the woodlands.

Our work finished, after a further days R&R in Newcastle and at the, Dordon Miner's Welfare Club, we returned home. We would like to thank the management, the staff and the members of the club from the bottom of our hearts. Not only had they made us welcome, and been friendly and kind, but they even gave us gifts of food and allowed us on nearly every evening to make use of their telephone for the purposes of carrying out radio interviews. There is a little bit of the corner of the collective heart of the CFZ, which will for ever be Dordon.

Over the next few days we will be transcribing, the interviews, and posting relevant excerpts on our website. This is only the first investigation in what is planned to be a year-long foray around BHM hot spots in the UK. We hope that we shall be publishing a definitive account of our adventures together with an attempt at analysis before the end of the year.

Gaelic-Speaking 'Ghost' Caught on Recording

(Claire Smith, *The Scotsman* 17 Jan 2003)

NEW evidence of ghosts in Edinburgh's underground city have been recorded on tape by a radio producer.

Debbie McPhail claims to have made a recording of a ghoulish voice hissing the words: "Get out" or "Go away" in Gaelic.

Mrs McPhail described herself as "a cynical person by nature" - but said she had no explanation for the ghostly voice.

The otherworldly voice ruined a recording she was making in Edinburgh underground vaults with the former subway international

Norrie Rowan, who owns a section of the underground city.

Mrs McPhail said: "I found the place so creepy, I let the presenter go down to do the interview himself. When I was listening back to it, I could hear Norrie Rowan chatting and then I heard another voice.

"It was close by to the microphone because you can tell if voices are far away or not. I knew it wasn't the presenter or Norrie because the voice had a slightly Irish accent.

"When the presenter came back up I asked him who they had met in the vault and he said nobody. I asked a colleague who spoke Gaelic and she said they could be saying 'get out' or 'go away'."

Gordon Stewart, assistant director at Mercat Tours, which conducts visits around the vaults said the recording could be the first actual evidence of psychic phenomena in the vault.

"It is an unusual story and quite chilling. I think it could be the first time anything like this has been recorded in Edinburgh. People who come on our tours have been scratched, had their hands jostled and come into contact with unknown things."

Psychologist Richard Wiseman, who has conducted research into the paranormal goings on beneath Edinburgh's South Bridge, said a third of the subjects in his study had some sort of experience in the vaults, including having their clothes pulled, hearing their names whispered or feeling tugs on their clothing.

But he said the phenomena could have been psychological effects suggested by the damp dripping walls and the dark dismal atmosphere of the underground city.

Dr Paul Stevens, a research fellow at Edinburgh University's Koestler Parapsychology unit, said: "The vaults are not mapped in places and you don't know what walls are backing on to. "At one time someone there thought they were hearing strange sounds, but the wall actually backed on to a massage parlour and that was where the funny noises were coming from.

"It is very creepy down there, so even water dripping can sound like footsteps."

UFOs:
SUB ROSA*
DOWN UNDER
THE AUSTRALIAN MILITARY & GOVERNMENT
ROLE IN THE UFO CONTROVERSY (part 3)

BY BILL CHALKER
(Copyright © B. Chalker - 1996)

The author is a leading Australian UFO researcher and a contributing editor to the International UFO Reporter. An industrial chemist with an honours science degree from the University of New England he has worked in quality assurance and laboratory management. His book, *The OZ Files - the Australian UFO Story*, was published in 1996. He coordinates the NSW based UFO Investigation Centre (UFOIC).

Bill has allowed his work to be published in Project Red Book on numerous occasions, and it is now my pleasure to begin a major series on Bill's research into the secret investigations of the Australian government and military of UFOs.

Sub Rosa: refers to "under the rose", meaning "in secret".

THE 1954 WAVE

The 1954 "saucer invasion" of Victoria wasted no time in getting underway with an intriguing sighting of a flying "mushroom" by an experienced ANA (Australian National Airways) pilot, Captain Douglas Barker, on January 1st. He was outside his East Doncaster home at about 10.15 am.

"I sighted it first over the Templestowe brickworks between 2 1/2 and 5 miles away on the approach path to Essendon. It was 4 to 5 times larger than a large passenger aircraft. The object was transparent and a smoky celluloid colour, with a bit of a tail and a mushroom shaped head. It oscillated in and out of cloud, and in about 6 miles changed its course to a north-easterly direction. It was travelling faster than any jet plane that I have ever seen."

Beneath the queer craft hung what looked like a light amber observation car.

"Its main body was elliptical with a long shaft about the same length as its body hanging below it. At the end of this thin, slightly curved shaft, was a sort of control tower."

The Department of Civil Aviation (DCA) suggested it may have been a Convair aircraft that was in the area. Barker rejected this explanation, "I've never seen anything less like a Convair. First of all, it was huge - about 4

times the size of a DC4. It was travelling at about 700 mph, well below the minimum altitude for the safety of normal aircraft. I see Convairs everyday, but this resembled no aircraft I know."

Barker had support from colleagues, "Two or three pilots mentioned similar experiences -- not with mushrooms -- but flying saucers and things. They said they had been too scared to mention what they had seen for fear of ridicule. All my colleagues have taken the reports seriously."

The RAAF had received a report of another "flying mushroom", this time at Mansfield, on January 15th. They did not reveal this information, which may have supported Barker's testimony. At 9.30pm, two witnesses saw it descending in front of them at 300 yards. Green lights appeared along with a whirring noise "like wind in wires." The object was estimated to be 150 feet wide and 60 feet in height. A 12-foot rim of bright metal was apparent. When it was stationary the green lights went out and the noise grew louder. The duration of the observation was about 20 minutes during which time its speed varied from fast to hovering.

As the object ascended, "yellow gaseous light" emanated from the base of a "stem" like protuberance, giving it a "mushroom" shape. The whirring stopped. As it moved forward, yellow gaseous light came from the side of the "stem". A secret scientific analysis of the

Directorate of Air Force Intelligence (DAFI) reports highlighted some interesting attributes of the Mansfield "flying mushroom", including "Inspection of aircraft -- American reports suggest that aircraft provide a centre of interest for UFOs", "Green light from centre of rim apparently used for visual inspection", and the "sudden roar" suggested "rapid jet efflux".

Numerous reports came in from diverse locations in Victoria, prompting the DCA to make a public request for reports to be sent to them. Within a week they had received 59 reports spanning nearly 30 years. DCA officials indicated that they were checking the reports and may turn them over to the RAAF for more extensive investigation. A spokesman said, "Some highly qualified engineers in our department are convinced that there is something in the saucer mystery. We just can't ignore reports submitted by reliable witnesses..."

The Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) made a series of seemingly open statements about UFOs during January 1954. By years end they had retreated from their open minded position and closed the door. However in January a RAAF spokesman was quoted as saying, "People are definitely seeing something and we hope to find out what it is. The RAAF has an open mind on saucers. We haven't rejected them as impossible or accepted them as fact yet. There is a high-ranking opinion in the Force that saucers do exist and you can't shake it. The RAAF has been receiving saucer reports and investigating them since the war."

The statement said the RAAF had received hundreds of reports since 1947 and their data indicated: 10% of the reports indicated the person making it had definitely seen something, details of many of the reports corresponded, 75% of the reports had come from the country districts, the number of reports of sightings from aircraft in flight had increased in recent months, and no sightings had been made from an RAAF machine. The aerial observations had all come from civil aircraft.

A "high ranking RAAF officer" stated:

"The RAAF is keeping an open mind on the objects, but I personally am convinced they have an Interplanetary source. People on this earth should be able to flying into outer space within about 40 years - why shouldn't people on other planets already have reached this stage?"

East Malvern was the scene for an intriguing report on May 30th. At about 12.25 a.m. "human shaped shadows" were sighted in a "flying football" that passed in a "dive" over 6 awed witnesses. The suggestion of "life" in the "flying football" caused a media sensation.

Among the witnesses was a policeman. He said, "Shadows of some people I think could be seen for several seconds". David Reese said, "When it reached the lowest point, shapes, like human figures, could definitely be seen. I could distinctly see inside it, dark shapes like busts", he added.

The puzzling Malvern event was one of the first sightings investigated by a scientist who authored a secret report to DAFI. His role would become pivotal in the secret government investigations. He had interviewed David Reese and "felt reassured as to the integrity of this witness".

The Malvern sensation also prompted a further statement from the RAAF. Gone was any suggestion of support for the "interplanetary" theory of origin. Political and intelligence ethics were now clearly muzzling the free wheeling opinions and depth of "facts" that featured in the January statements.

On May 31st, Melbourne RAAF Public Relations Officer, Mr. John Tyrrell said:

"It would be stupid to ignore flying saucers. We believe there's something flying around which cannot be regarded as a figment of someone's imagination. We don't know what it is, we have no concrete evidence of saucers as such, but we simply can't discount certain reports from sane, seasoned, RAAF and Airline pilots."

During April, 1954, the Deputy Chief of Air Staff (DCAS) had approved a "statement of RAAF policy" on the "investigation of flying saucers". References apparently drawn from that statement appeared in the media from June 3rd, 1954. The full draft policy was held in classified RAAF UFO policy files. It states:

INVESTIGATION OF FLYING SAUCERS STATEMENT OF R.A.A.F. POLICY

1. The R.A.A.F. accepts reports on flying saucers and attempts an allocation of reliability. Those that fall in the reliable class are then subjected to further investigation as and when the opportunity occurs. As a result of this further investigation, a smaller number of

reports are followed up and investigations are made with the Meteorological Services, the Government Astronomer and the Civil Aviation authorities in an attempt to fit the original occurrences in with any normal flying activity or meteorological phenomena.

2. As a result of investigations in the past, there is no doubt that reliable observers have reported sightings which today are inexplicable within the resources available to the R.A.A.F. [*my emphasis - B.C.*] Reports of this type are continuously filed in an attempt to develop sufficient depth of evidence for an accurate analysis to be made. It may however, be several years before the required depth of evidence is available.

"Depth of evidence" was to some measure invoked by an incident that occurred a few days later. "This particular sighting has an extremely high probability of being a UFO without any provisos", wrote the author of a classified report to DAFI. He was referring to an extraordinary close encounter event at Dandenong, on June 5th, 1954. Two young girls -- Janette Brown (16) and Jeanette Johnston (13) -- witnessed the spectacle. Janette described what she saw:

"I was standing on Princes Highway, opposite the 21 mile post waiting for Jeanette, about 6.20 pm. I heard a loud drumming noise, something like a motorcycle, but there were no cars or cycles around at the time. Then a large dark shape appeared over the partly built H.T. Heinz factory, and whirred towards me when I shone my torch. Just above the house where the caretaker lives it burst into light. It hovered about 20 yards away on top of the factory gate as if it deliberately wanted me to look at it - or it wanted to look at me. It was cylinder shaped, about 30 feet long and 15 feet high, with a canopy and window on top and a window at each end."

Janette was joined by her friend Jeanette. She described the incident in the following way:

"A silvery coloured cylinder rose above the house then swept away in a wide circle to the International Harvester factory a few hundred yards away. It stayed on top of the factory for about one minute, then disappeared behind trees."

Janette's wristwatch stopped at 6.23 pm, leading to wild speculation that the saucer's "cosmic power" had drained her torch battery of power, and magnetised her handbag, belt

clasps and iron fencing over which had hovered. Neighbours complained that their radio reception was affected. A government geologist, Peter Kenley, visited the site and declared there was no compelling evidence for significant magnetisation. The radio interference was caused by storms, he declared, and he also concurred with the idea that a flock of pigeons caused the sighting!

Both girls seemed genuinely frightened by the experience, with one asking if she could move to another suburb, in case the "saucer" tried to destroy her home and family.

Janette Brown's integrity and conviction "was impressive", concluded an "eminent Australian nuclear physicist, who has investigated 'saucer' reports' since 1948." The physicist wrote about the Dandenong case in a major article for the *Melbourne Argus*. Entitled *Saucers' do exist and why!*, it appeared on June 26th, 1954, indicating that the physicist's name "must be withheld because of his link with high-level research". He concluded:

"... the light available and duration of observation were sufficient to discern details of structure that could not possibly be confused with any phenomena other than a machine that is capable of hovering, rotating, and moving in virtual silence without any obvious method of propulsion."

The physicist prepared his own report on the affair from which I quote:

"In shape, the object appeared to have a circular or elliptical base with a domed canopy on top, in which were square windows symmetrically arranged. Underneath the base were three ellipsoidal 'wheels' which appeared to be either swinging or revolving...."

"The witness had various impressions:

- (a) The object was attracted towards her because she flashed a torch at it when it first appeared.
- (b) when it was near the fence, she felt that she was being closely observed.
- (c) Her torch felt as though it were charged.
- (d) She had a 'ghostly feeling' and was afraid. She crouched close to the ground, and was prepared to use the torch as a weapon should something emerge from the object.

The witness had seen in the *Australasian Post* a copy of a photograph taken by Adamski but was unimpressed. She claims that previously she did not concern herself with stories of 'flying saucers'."

The "invasion" centred in Victoria in 1954 was the most significant of the early sighting waves. The Victorian UFO Research Society was not founded until 1957, however in 1978 it produced an excellent study of the flap. The persistent Victorian visitations of 1954 drew this flippant comment in a contemporary newspaper: "...It was becoming increasingly clear that the Martians are people of infinite variety", and that they probably regarded their 'spaceships', with the same jealous individuality as terrestrial women have with their hats."

The extensive wave lead to entrenched official interest. A classified DAFI file minute dated 2 Nov 1955, somewhat tellingly revealed: "A ministerial statement in the House [*Australian parliament - B.C.*] on 19 Nov 53 (indicates) that the RAAF make detailed investigations of every report received, (which in truth we are not yet doing)."

THE SECRET TURNER REPORT

The Drury affair and the 1954 "UFO invasion" of Victoria lead to the Directorate of Air Force Intelligence (DAFI) asking Melbourne University professor, O.H. Turner, to undertake a classified "scientific appreciation" of the official reports held on file. In his detailed report Turner recommended greater official interest and specific interest in radar visual reports. His most profound conclusion was: "The evidence presented by the reports held by RAAF tend to support the ... conclusion ... that certain strange aircraft have been observed to behave in a manner suggestive of extra-terrestrial origin."

In studying the RAAF/DAFI UFO files Turner also utilised retired Marine Corps Major Donald Keyhoe's USAF reports, described in his best selling book, *Flying Saucers from Outer Space*, and suggested the RAAF seek official USAF confirmation of the legitimacy of Keyhoe's data. Turner said of Keyhoe's "USAF data", that "if one assumes these Intelligence Reports are authentic, then the evidence presented is such that it is difficult to assume any interpretation other than that UFOs are being observed."

The disposition of Harry Turner's controversial report is a revealing indictment of official handling of the UFO controversy. Faced with his provocative conclusions with Keyhoe's data as one cornerstone, the Director of Air Force Intelligence (RAAF) did seek out official confirmation from America. The Australian Joint Service Staff (intelligence) in Washington wrote to him saying:

"I have discussed with the USAF the status of Major Keyhoe. I understand that his book is written in such a way as to convey the impression that his statements are based on official documents, and there is some suggestion that he has made improper use of information to which he had access while he was serving with the Marine Corps. He has, however, no official status whatsoever and a dim view is taken officially of both him and his works."

So when it came to considering Turner's classified report, the Department of Air concluded: "Professor Turner accepted Keyhoe's book as being authentic and based on official releases. Because Turner places so much weight on Keyhoe's work he emphasised the need to check Keyhoe's reliability. (The Australian Joint Service Staff communication) removes Keyhoe's works as a prop for Turner's work so that the value of the latter's findings and recommendations is very much reduced."

Turner's findings, including one in which he recommended the setting up of a scientific "investigating panel", in the light of the "discrediting" of Keyhoe's data, were found to be impractical and not justified.

The big problem with all this was that it was based on an act of conscious or unconscious misrepresentation on the part of the US Air Force. They were engaged in a misguided campaign to undermine the popularity of Donald Keyhoe's books. While Keyhoe may have slightly "beat up" his USAF data, the Intelligence reports, quoted by Keyhoe and used by Turner to support his conclusions to DAFI, were authentic! Eventually the USAF themselves also admitted that the material Keyhoe used was indeed from official Air Force reports. Political myopia from both the US and Australian military effectively scuttled Australia's first serious flirtation with scientific investigation of UFOs. Fortunately Turner's 1954 report was "located" in classified RAAF UFO policy files I examined in 1982 with Squadron Leader Ian Frame from DAFI.

Harry Turner was advocating attempts to secure more radar cases. Radar at the restricted Woomera rocket range facility in South Australia picked up a UFO on May 5th, 1954. Turner's report indicates that at about 1630 hours 3 witnesses saw a "misty grey disc" at a 355 degree bearing, at some 35 miles distance and at an altitude of more than 60,000 feet.

The object appeared to have an apparent diameter of about 10 feet. The visual observation which lasted 5 minutes was aided by binoculars. The object travelled south then west, with the radar echo confirming a speed of 3,600 mph! Harry Turner told me of the radar case that impressed him the most in his study of the DAFI UFO files that lead to his classified 1954 report. The case, originally classified 'secret', describes a UFO event over Woomera that was witnessed by an English Electric scientist and a radar operator. The EE scientist was outside talking to the radar operator when the radar confirmed the presence of a UFO. The scientist watched the object with binoculars. One of his functions at Woomera was to monitor rocket tests. He was experienced in observing movement in the sky. The radar tracked the UFO until it went out of

range, however they were able to confirm distance and size. Some tests were being undertaken with a Canberra bomber in flight. The UFO was moving in formation with the Canberra. The Canberra crew could not see the UFO, but both the plane and UFO were confirmed on radar.

(Continued next issue)

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'PROOF OF ALIENS' GOES ON SHOW *(BBC Online .15 January. 2003)*

A series of images of flying saucers which are claimed to be proof of alien life are to be shown at the National Space Centre.

Hundreds of the objects were captured on film by the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (Soho), a spacecraft 1,000,000 miles from Earth observing the sun.

The glowing, saucer-shaped "craft" were said to be moving in a way that suggested intelligent control.

Nasa originally dismissed the images as being the result of a camera fault or as comets or asteroids and is now refusing to comment on them.

But UFO investigators are convinced they are spacecraft flown by aliens.

Mike Murray, 54, a founder of the UFO group Euroseti, which is holding the exhibition at the space centre in Leicester, said: "Some of the pictures are real crackers. They are the archetypal flying saucers - disc-shaped objects with some kind of glow around them.

"Many have a pulsing light and leave a trail behind them. They come from all angles and directions.

There's one especially which is really fabulous. It is a glowing disc with a pink disc-shaped object within the glow, and a turret on the top.

"I think it's absolutely irrefutable that this couldn't be anything other than a machine. It's an astonishing picture."

Mr Murray obtained the images from a Spanish businessman who picked them up from Soho using a giant satellite dish at his home outside Barcelona.

Over the past two years, he has collected about 700 of the pictures.

Mr Murray said: "The first thing we did when we got the images was to speak to Nasa, who said it was a camera fault.

"But by enhancing the images we proved this wasn't the case."

He said Nasa then suggested the objects could be asteroids or comets - but this did not explain the way they appeared to move independently and make turns.

The images will be screened at the National Space Centre on the evenings of 24, 25 and 26 January.

Mr Murray asked people not to call the space centre for details of the exhibition.

A VIEW FROM BRITAIN

THE JENNY RANGLES COLUMN

(Originally published in The MUFON JOURNAL, December 2001)

(Editor's note - Please bear in mind the original date of publication. YUFOS extends its thanks to Jenny & to Dwight Connely, editor of The MUFON Journal, for permission to reproduce this work.)

SCIENCE AND UFOLOGY

I have just completed work on a huge writing project that looks at how science deals with unusual phenomena - not merely the unexplained, but also strange theories and maverick ideas that emerge from within their own ranks.

This has set me wondering about the problems of the UFO mystery, with which this book is not especially concerned. Why is science apparently so reluctant to take this subject seriously? Is the problem theirs, or ours? Actually it is a bit of both.

The fear of science

Scientists have a very well defined set of rules as to how to deal with new evidence. It should be consistent and widespread as well as suggestive of, but relevant to, the need for theory that might explain it. The data should be amenable to reproduction by colleagues in whatever way they choose. And there must be testable hypotheses that they can deduce from the evidence and which will provide clear-cut answers, one way or the other, when set against experiments that suggest themselves and will test the theory.

Any theory that denies testing is regarded with much distrust by science, which simply does not take things on trust. They have to be demonstrated - that is the essence of scientific thinking.

This works extremely well for most purposes. If you discover a new sub atomic particle during a lab experiment, then you can carefully explain to fellow physicists what you did and how it appeared, allowing them to recreate the experiment and see if it appears for them as well. Sometimes it does, sometimes it does not. But the possible existence of this particle will be tolerated if it makes sense within the remit of known science and its manifestation is

logically credible. More attempts will be made to find it until it can be independently verified. If it never is, the original research is likely to be strenuously questioned.

Should the claim that this new particle exists require a complete reappraisal of existing theory about quantum physics, for example, then it will be less likely to gain interim acceptance. Science will expect to see multiple verifications and a semblance of a working theory as to why this new particle should exist and good grounds as to why it is not just (for instance) a mistaken reading of some other particle that is already identified.

In light of this need science looks warily at any new idea that sits uneasily with our current state of knowledge and for which multiple verification is not possible, let alone any ideas that are testable by way of experiment. It often cries the request to see good evidence and we might say - but we have that - case after case in which witness A says this happened, or that did.

But science means more than we can offer. By good evidence it does not mean anecdotes. It means hard evidence. If the existence of a new sub atomic particle relied only on some physicist saying that he saw one form in front of his eyes in a lab one Tuesday afternoon but it has never appeared again and he cannot explain to colleagues why it turned up that one time - science will say, politely, come back when it does!

The expectation of UFOlogy

UFOlogists live with their evidence day in, day out. We meet witnesses who have often clearly seen something extraordinary, in so far as they are concerned. And we can view it in the

context of an accumulation of evidence and recognise the patterns.

Witness A sees a red mass and says that her car engine stalled when it was overhead. Her headlights went out. Her skin started to tingle and her eyes water. We immediately recognise the pattern and say that this is a car stop or vehicle interference case, for which we can cite a dozen similar references.

To us, this is enough to be sure that at least some of these witnesses are telling the truth and thus describing a phenomenon that behaves in an apparently interesting way. We devise our theories - perhaps that it is some rare type of atmospheric electrified cloud or that these are side effects of an alien craft perusing the highway. And we move on to look for further cases.

UFOlogists, if you like, are data collectors and the creators of the big idea immune to the need of the grinding process of verification. Scientists, on the other hand, prefer to be experimenters and the creators of the steady progression of theories based on already existing ideas. To them proof is everything.

In many ways these two are not that compatible.

What does science want?

So what would science like to see from UFOlogists in order to pay attention to what we regard as important data and that we feel sure really ought to excite them?

The first thing they would ask about a case such as the one above would be for physical parameters that few UFOlogists ever seek. We are curious about what the witness was doing, how they felt at the time and the colour and speed of the UFO. Scientists will be asking - if this thing was not some misperception (for instance of an aircraft flying through a thunderstorm) then how could the alleged physical effects that were experienced by the witness or the consequences to her car have occurred?

They will be curious about the level of electrostatic charge in the witnesses body and the comparison with her normal levels of body electricity. Was it greater after the sighting? If so, for how long did this effect last? As for the car, what strength of EM field would be required to create the power defects reported and would this lead to a permanent effect on the vehicle that can be measured across time?

What are the known results of a human being suffering exposure to a similar level of radiation - so these can be compared with the effects that witness A reveals?

In other words, the UFOlogist provides a case report that interests other UFOlogists but on the whole it does not give any scientist what they seek.

How do we bridge the gap?

So how do we bridge this gulf between data that we normally provide and the sort of evidence that science seeks?

A scientist is likely to want to study the car and the witness - but that may well be impossible. Why? Because the case may have occurred months or years before it was reported and so an investigation today is doomed to failure in so far as securing any scientific data.

But there are ways in which science and UFOlogy could get together and figure out a protocol that alleviates such difficulties. For instance, scientists could define to us sets of criteria from which we can identify a case that will interest them. They can advise us of the questions they will need to be asked up front about various types of case. And together we can create an early warning system whereby we improve our capacity to discover and react to physical evidence cases within minutes or hours not weeks or months, as well as a process by which interested scientists can then follow these up immediately.

After all, if they decry the lack of calibre in the evidence that we provide, then it behoves them to respond to it as and when we come up with the goods that fits their needs.

Perhaps UFOlogy could create a joint conference with interested scientists from outside the UFO field with an aim to working through such a protocol and finding those scientists out there ready and willing to act if something happens that can be studied by the methods that they are used to.

These people do exist. Maybe we should go out there, find them and take the initiative to forge this new way forward?

FROM AROUND THE WORLD... AND BEYOND!!!

UFOs, conspiracies, fortune and paranormal events compiled by Dave Baker

MYSTERY IN THE SKY ABOVE LOCH NESS

(The Inverness Courier – Scotland, 21 January 2003)

Folk around Loch Ness have been keeping watch on the night skies after mystery lights appeared above the village of Drumnadrochit last weekend.

Local astronomers have been called in to see if they can find the truth about what is out there, while residents in Drumnadrochit have gathered to watch the light in the early hours of the morning.

"It's the buzz of the village," said Liz Gresham, whose husband Ian first spotted the light.

"A lady who lives in the respite centre asked the kids if they had seen the light. When they said they had, she told them; 'They should do something about that. It's not natural'."

Mr Gresham first noticed the light when he looked out of his window at around 1.30am last week to check for snow and has since filmed the light using the family camcorder.

"It's amazing, whatever it is, because it spins and rotates into shapes," Mr Gresham declared.

"It looks green when you look at it on the video, but it's actually bright blue. We sat and pondered about it. It can't be a shooting star, otherwise, it would shoot off, and it's not an aircraft. It's amazing how it just hovers about and then heads off in different directions. When it slows down, you can see it's not round, it's oblong."

Mrs Gresham revealed that people were coming down every night to watch it. "I've never seen anything like it," she said.

"It looks as though there are two black things, one at the top and one at the bottom and colours in the middle. For the colours to blend like that it must be spinning round." Mrs Gresham has even contacted RAF

Lossiemouth to see if they have picked up anything on radar but was told there is no record of it. The station radar is not manned after 11pm at night.

The light gradually moves across the north-west sky, then appears to take off in a different direction. "It looks as though it's going down, but it's actually getting further away," Mr Gresham claimed. "With the camera, I've been trying to get as close in as possible. Whether you expect to see some little aliens waving back at you, I don't know."

The family are keeping an open mind about what the light may be, but are not ruling out an extra-terrestrial origin.

"The whole village, to be honest, thinks it's a UFO. That's what's putting worries in their minds," Mrs Gresham stated. "I have been on astronomy websites and there's not a star that does anything like that.

"We're now just waiting for the kidnappings to start!"

Less worried are the couple's three children, Nicole (12), Lauren (8) and Bradley (7), who are excited about the whole phenomenon.

"The two oldest were up on the first night and they thought it was fantastic," Mrs Gresham recalled. "Nicole came home from school and told us she had to stand there a hundred times a day and tell people about it."

Mr Gresham thought that the TV programme *The X-Files* had fired people's imagination. "I think people do believe there is a big place where they keep bits that have fallen off flying saucers," he said.

Maarten de Vries, of Highlands Astronomical Society, has studied the video with colleagues and, although he has not identified the object, he believes it is most likely to be man-made as it is too low to be a celestial body, he added.

"It's very unlikely it is extra-terrestrial or anything extra-terrestrial visiting, because there is no evidence of anything like that anywhere in the world. There are plenty of stories, but no concrete evidence," Mr de Vries stated.

"It is a UFO, because it is unidentified, but people confuse that with extra-terrestrials. It's very possible it's a single light source that has been blurred by the atmospheric conditions, and atmospheric conditions have been very bad.

"If I had seen this, I would be intrigued - so thumbs-up to the people for making the video."

BIG CAT RULED OUT OF DOG KILLING

(29 January, 2003 news.bbc.co.uk)

A dog which was killed in west Wales was not the victim of a big cat attack, Welsh Assembly officials have confirmed. (see last issue-DB)

It had been thought the whippet had been killed by a black leopard, but a series of tests on the dog's body showed no traces of leopard DNA. The hairs found in the dog's mouth also did not match those of a leopard, Rural Development Minister Michael German announced.

Tests revealed most of the hairs were from a dog, although it was not possible to determine the breed.

There is also evidence that other hairs could be from a badger, though the quality of sample was not good enough for this to be conclusive. The research was carried out at the UK Government's central science laboratory in York.

Earlier in January, a post-mortem examination confirmed the dog had been killed by a large predator.

However, further DNA tests were ordered by the assembly's Wildlife Advisory Unit after the initial examination proved inconclusive. Armed police

There have been a wave big cat sightings in west Wales since a farmer reported seeing a cat-like animal attack and kill a whippet on his farm in Llangadog on 3 January.

Officers had warned farmers to be vigilant and to patrol their land in pairs while armed police spent several days trying to track the animal. A week later, a female motorist saw an animal crossing the A40 near Llandeilo in front of her car.

BIGFOOT SIGHTINGS ON THE INCREASE

(Angela Taylor, www.thisisscotland.co.uk. 28 January 2003)

If you go down to the woods today, or into the hills, you may find Bigfoot alive and well and living in the wilds of northern Scotland.

Geoff Lincoln, of British Hominid Research, claims there is a steady influx of reported sightings of the elusive beast throughout the UK, including several in the North.

Described as 6-10ft tall with long arms, large feet and covered in hair, the beasts are frequently reported to have glowing eyes and a pungent odour, he added.

He said there is now a "wealth of evidence" favouring the existence of the mysterious creatures, and there is a certain amount of logic that an "unknown species of hominid" could be living throughout the world.

He said UK encounters were being reported with a "steady and unnerving regularity", despite the fear of being ridiculed.

Ben Macdhui in the Cairngorms is a good, if risky, spot to catch a glimpse of the fabled biped, known locally as Fear Liath More - the Big Grey Man - though strange beasts have also been spotted in Aberdeenshire.

Climbers encountering the Big Grey Man may be lucky to escape with their lives. It apparently possesses special powers and exudes malign feelings which invade the minds of mere mortals, causing panic. It has been claimed that the hairy beast - reported to be 10ft with a big, ape-like head - is trying to send climbers over the edge of a precipitous drop. It is not always seen, but often heard and its presence felt, according to local legend.

The Big Grey Man pounced into the public arena when experienced mountaineer Professor Norman Collie, of University College London, told a gathering of the Cairngorm Club in Aberdeen, in 1925, that he had seen a creature on Ben Macdhui in 1891.

Overcome by terror, he took to his heels and ran for miles. He vowed never to return to the mountain alone.

In 1943, Alexander Tewnion claimed to have shot at the beast three times with a revolver after it loomed up out of the mist. But it did not deserve such harsh treatment, according to Scottish baronet Sir Hugh Rankin and his wife, who claimed to have met the olive-complexioned critter, which was dressed only in a robe and sandals, in 1959.

Sir Hugh, a one-time town councillor of Blairgowrie and county councillor of Perthshire, said he had chatted with it. The Buddhist believed the "very broad" creature was a Bodhistav - one of the five perfect men which control the destinies of the world.

The Ben Macdhuì sightings have been attributed to several things - mountain panic, hallucinations caused by lack of oxygen, swirling mist and the Big Grey Man truly existing.

Mountain panic has also been reported between Kilmuir and Staffin, on Bìoda Buidhe and at Baca Ruadh Hill on Skye, at Bennachie, in Aberdeenshire and All Innis a' Mhuill in Glen Strathfarrar, though there do not seem to be reports of tall eerie creatures at those sites.

In 1970, 14 Royal Navy submariners were sent to the Cairngorms for training and were to probe the mystery of the Big Grey Man, but never found it.

In 1994, two men walking in woods at Torphins in Aberdeenshire claimed to have spotted a 6ft 6in, strong, muscular beast covered with jet black hair and with red glowing eyes darting in and out of trees.

INQUISITIVE TERRIER SNIFFS OUT A BIG CAT (30 January 2003, *West Morning News Cornwall, UK*)

A big cat the size of a border collie has been spotted on a smallholding in North Devon, leaving the witnesses "gobsmacked".

"I have to admit I was a real cynic," said Gill Douglas-Mann, who saw the animal early on Monday morning. "But now there is no doubt in my mind that they exist."

Mrs Douglas-Mann spotted the cat while working on land at her home in Petrockstow, near Hatherleigh. She said: "The night before our two dogs had been very restless, barking all the time, but we thought nothing of it. Then in the morning my husband and I went to one of our fields to start digging rhubarb. Suddenly our terrier, Jack, started barking and ran off towards a hedgerow.

"I presumed he was chasing a fox but then he started yelping horribly. I couldn't see him so obviously I was distraught. Then he went quiet."

The couple ran towards the hedgerow to see where Jack had gone. But what they saw was something they will never forget.

Mrs Douglas-Mann said: "An animal the size of a collie dog came loping out of the hedge and ran off. It was definitely not a dog or a fox because it ran in the distinctive way cats do and we were only about thirty feet away.

It was jet black with a white bib and it kept looking round and back towards us as it ran. We were both gobsmacked. It was very surreal."

Mrs Douglas-Mann admits that before Monday morning she was doubtful as to the existence of the mystery creatures. They are thought to be pumas or lynx which adapted and began breeding after being released into the wild when new laws on dangerous pets came into force.

Mrs Douglas-Mann said: "I was a bit of a cynic. But people always say you don't believe in these things until you see them, and they are becoming less of a myth all the time. We are not overly worried because it was obviously frightened of humans. "But we do have chickens so it is a concern."

WMN writer and big cat expert Trevor Beer said: "A lot of black cats have been seen with this distinctive white bib marking. It is difficult to say what species the animal is but it is likely to be a hybrid of two wild cats. When these mate the offspring is very often infertile."

The latest sighting comes just a week after latest figures showing record numbers of big cats were spotted in the Westcountry last year.

In a report released by The British Big Cat Society (BBCS), the number of sightings in Devon rose from ten in 2001 to 97 in 2002. In Cornwall, there was an increase from seven in 2001 to 44 last year.

Big cat sightings can be reported on the BBCS website at www.britishbigcats.org, or by ringing Dartmoor Wildlife Park on 01752 837645.

Alternatively, Trevor Beer can be contacted on 01271 373520 or ring the WMN newsdesk on 01752 765538. pandrews@westermorningnews.co.uk