

BUFORA

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AIMS :

1. To encourage and promote unbiased scientific investigation and research into Unidentified Flying Object phenomena.
2. To collect and disseminate evidence and data relating to Unidentified Flying Objects.
3. To co-ordinate UFO Research on a nation-wide scale and co-operate with persons and organisations engaged upon similar research in all parts of the world.

MEMBERSHIP : The annual subscription is £2.40, \$6 U.S.A. and Canada. Membership is open to all persons supporting the aims of the Association and whose application is approved by the Executive Committee. Application/Information Forms are obtainable from any Officer.

JOURNAL : Published Quarterly and available to Members only, or by exchange. Correspondence to the Editor: Richard Beet, F.R.A.S., A.F.B.I.S., M.A.I.E. (dip.), 316 Pinewood Park, Cove, Farnborough, Hampshire.

THE BRITISH UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Founded 1964

(Incorporating the London U.F.O. Research Organisation, founded 1959
and the British U.F.O. Association, founded 1962).

THE BUFORA JOURNAL

Volume 4 Number 5

Winter 1974/5.

NEW EDITOR and Re-scheduling

Following a year of excellent work as editor of this Journal, Norman Oliver resigned in October 1974, for domestic reasons. May I say that myself, and my N.E.C. colleagues are very grateful to Norman for the time and effort he put into this job.

I have pleasure in announcing the appointment of the new editor, Richard Beet. Richard joined BUFORA in 1966, and was a founder-member of the Surrey Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena (publishers of PEGASUS) in 1967, although he claims his interest in ufology dates back to 1958. We are assured of a practical approach to ufology, since he is an Associate Fellow of the British Interplanetary Society and a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society. He will be taking over the editorial reins with the next issue. We are particularly fortunate in acquiring Richard's services, as he is a professional journalist. He is a Member of the Association of Industrial Editors, and produces publications for the Telecommunications side of the Post Office. All editorial material and exchange magazines should now be sent to Richard Beet at the address opposite. However, we regret that for economic reasons, it is not possible to exchange with every UFO publication.

One of the conclusions, which came out of the policy meeting held at Newcastle-under-Lyme on 23rd November, was the resolution that we should increase the frequency of the JOURNAL to bi-monthly. This should meet members' requests for more information more often. Also we will be able to incorporate Research Bulletin material directly into the JOURNAL. This operation will mean tighter scheduling, and it remains to be seen just how successful we are.

LIONEL BEER,
December 1974.

The British UFO Research Association does not hold or express corporate views on UFO phenomena. The Editor and his contributors are solely responsible for views advanced over their names in this Journal.

Articles and items for inclusion in the Journal must be sent direct to the Editor and not to other BUFORA officers. Original articles are copyright to individual contributors and to BUFORA. Requests for permission to reproduce from the Journal should be addressed to the Editor.

EDITORIAL

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

BUFORA is starting the second decade of its existence with fresh resolve. At a special policy planning conference, held in North Staffordshire last November, your Executive Committee conducted a critical self-appraisal of its performance in recent years in furthering the aims of the Association. A full statement of the important decisions made at this Conference, and which affect every single member, appears later in this issue.

In spite of the efforts of many talented members who have contributed to the activities of BUFORA over the years, it is regrettably obvious that apart from isolated successes, the Association has made little advance in the following two important respects since its formation:-

1. The size of the membership including persons willing and able to assist with the scientific investigations and research into U.F.O. phenomena;
2. The publication of scientific Papers and Reports on investigated U.F.O. cases and completed research projects, of high enough calibre to attract the serious attention and help from both enlightened members of the Scientific establishment and the broadcasting media in general.

Although one of BUFORA's aims is to disseminate information on the U.F.O. phenomena, we have now reached a point where most members consider BUFORA to be little more than a "Publisher." Financially, this is certainly true, as 85% of a member's subscription is currently spent on producing four Journals and two Research Bulletins each year. Your committee has therefore decided that this situation is no longer acceptable, and as a Research Association, BUFORA should give priority to investigation and research in terms of both human effort and financial resources. We believe that this decision will be welcomed by the vast majority of the membership.

However, the Committee also recognises that local U.F.O. Groups, societies and branches have been neglected in recent years, and as these organisations represent the life blood of any National Voluntary Association, such as BUFORA, we have decided to devote far more attention to fostering the development of any serious minded U.F.O. society, even if few of its members are BUFORA members. Consequently we intend to appoint a Liaison Officer, whose function will be to develop links, and mutual areas of help and co-operation, between BUFORA and local U.F.O. societies, as well as its own branches. An announcement and appeal for a volunteer or volunteers to do this vital and rewarding work appears elsewhere in this issue.

Even though we will be spending less on communications to members, we nevertheless, intend to increase its value and effectiveness by issuing the Journal bi-monthly instead of quarterly and by improving the content and mode of presentation of material. We hope that members will feel that a slimmer publication is adequately compensated by its more frequent appearance.

Unfortunately, it is with great regret that your Committee has recently received the resignation of Mr. Norman Oliver from the Editorship of the Journal. Through his energy and enthusiasm, he managed to breathe new life and interest into our publication during a particularly difficult time, when there was a complete lull in

U.F.O. activity in this country. The valuable assistance which Mr. Oliver has provided to the Association as Editor is greatly appreciated by all his colleagues on the Committee who are fully aware that the Editor's task is the most demanding of all, and we are delighted that his increased personal commitments will at least allow sufficient time for him to remain an active committee member.

We are pleased to announce that Mr. Richard Beet has agreed to become Editor of the Journal in succession to Mr. Oliver, starting with the first of the new-look bi-monthly issues in the early Spring. We are extremely fortunate to have the assistance of Richard Beet, as he is both a professional editor and an active member of BUFORA and SIGAP. We believe that our publication could not be in better hands and its success will be assured if he now receives the support and encouragement of members, who are able and willing to contribute to its pages. We wish Richard every success with his first issue.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

One of the greatest obstacles to progress in U.F.O. Research is the difficulty experienced in getting potential helpers to take the subject, and those presently involved with it, seriously. Those speaking to the press and television on behalf of BUFORA endeavour to be cautious and low-key in their approach knowing that to do otherwise usually courts disaster, as the subject lends itself so easily to sensational treatment or an amusing example of eccentric behaviour. Unfortunately, from time to time, certain well meaning individuals cause serious harm to U.F.O. research by gaining publicity of the kind mentioned above. One recent case, which has disturbed a number of members in the Manchester Area, relates to certain statements made by Mr. David Rees during an interview on Radio Piccadilly in Manchester in the latter part of last year. Amongst other things, we understand that Mr. Rees made a number of unsupported claims relating to elements of hostility in U.F.O. cases, which may have caused unnecessary alarm in the minds of listeners. We wish that Mr. Rees and other persons who claim to speak with authority would check their facts first and also refrain from introducing inaccurate information of a sensational nature during public discussions of this kind.

Only by being seen to be responsible can we take advantage of the enormous publicity which this subject attracts.

COMPANY REGISTRATION

The N.E.C. are pleased to announce that the resolution put at the E.G.M. of 7th December was passed, and that active steps are being taken to incorporate the association as a company limited by guarantee.

DISCLAIMER

The British Unidentified Flying Object Research Association has no connection in any way with the activities of a certain Mr. REX DUTTA of London. This person has on occasions caused annoyance to witnesses of U.F.O. phenomenon and also embarrassment to our investigators. We extend our sympathy to the former, and repeat that we have no connection with Mr. Dutta.

A. WEST for N.E.C.

BUFORA—COMMITTEE CONFERENCE

Posthouse Motel, Newcastle-under-Lyme, 23rd-24th November, 1974.

1. (a) It was agreed that the Association should reduce the cost of periodical and supplementary notices sent to members and with a view to achieving this it was decided that the cost of this should not exceed a fixed percentage of a member's subscription.
(b) It was agreed that for the time being that this fixed percentage should be 65%.
2. In connection with his offer to assist in the publication of the Association periodical, it was agreed that the Hon. Secretary should write to Mr. Richard Beet of SIGAP. The Committee particularly required his views and opinions on both his approach to the UFO subject in general and also his proposals as to the form and content of any publication which he wished to produce on the Association's behalf.
3. The Chairman agreed to contact Mr. Charles Bowen, Editor of F.S.R., to discover if there were any ways in which BUFORA and F.S.R. could co-operate to the mutual benefit of each other in the sphere of publications.
4. The Treasurer asked members to supply copy for the Winter Journal no later than Christmas Eve and the following contributions were promised:
Roger Stanway — Results of the Policy Planning Weekend.
Trevor Whitaker — Report on the Public Lecture.
Betty Wood — An appeal for a Branch and Society Liaison Officer.
Anthony Pace — Research Director's Report.
Charles Lockwood — Research Projects Progress Report.
Ken Phillips — Sightings Report.
5. **Membership/Societies and Groups.**
It was agreed that a Branch and Society Liaison Officer be appointed as soon as possible and that an appeal be made in the Journal about this for such a person. The Liaison Officer would need to be enthusiastic with spare time and a willingness to travel and the Committee, subject to prior authorisation, would be prepared to reimburse all reasonable travelling expenses in connection with such liaison.
6. It was agreed that the Association continue its policy of encouraging the formation of Branches in areas where it is practical. However, where there exists a local group or where local groups are being formed, the Association encourages their affiliation as member societies. The subscription for member societies being the same as that for an individual and that this conveys the status of a single member upon the group, entitling them to one voting representative at the Association's Annual General Meeting and to receive single copies of mailing. In addition,
(a) The Association to offer a modified Sighting Report Form for these groups, without the Association's name, at say, 10% over cost plus postage, on the understanding that the group co-operate with the Regional Co-ordinator for their area and that they send one copy of their completed sighting report forms to this regional co-ordinator.

- (b) The Association evaluate these sightings and send a report to the group
 - (c) The Association co-operate with local groups to sponsor annual regional conferences at varying locations throughout Britain.
 - (d) The Association undertakes to publish outline details of sighting reports received, at regular intervals.
 - (e) That the National Executive Committee appoint a member responsible for liaison with Member Societies and Branches.
7. (a) The Committee were pleased to accept Mr. Tim O'Brien's offer to act as Evaluation Co-ordinator and it was agreed that the Evaluation Panel should consist of:
Dr. Geoffrey Doel, Mr. Tony Pace, Mr. Trevor Whitaker and Mr. Tim O'Brien.
- (b) It was agreed that a preliminary list of consultants should be prepared by Mr. Tim O'Brien and the Investigations and Research sections for submission to the next Committee Meeting for approval and that subject to this such persons be invited to act as consultants.
 - (c) Mr. Tim O'Brien also kindly offered to be available to investigate at short notice any report of especial importance which both he and Ken Phillips agreed required immediate on-the-spot investigation.
8. **Investigators' Pass Cards.**
It was agreed that Mr. Arnold West should produce a suitable Investigators' card which would be issued discriminately to suitably approved Investigators. Such cards would be renewed, together with photograph, every three years but in any event would be re-authorised annually. Mr. Ken Phillips agreed to prepare a list of leading Investigators for the next Committee Meeting.
9. **Spring Conference.**
It was agreed that this should be held in N. Staffs on the weekend 10th/11th May. The Conference would be hopefully self-supporting financially and it was intended that the programme would be totally of a scientific rather than general nature.
10. **Investigators' Conference.**
It was agreed that Mr. Ken Phillips be authorised to hold a Special Weekend Conference for R.I.Cs and other Investigators wishing to attend on the 8th March for the purpose of both general training and agreeing contingency plans in the event of a future wave of sightings.
11. **Questionnaires.**
It was agreed that the new forms of questionnaire being currently devised be printed either in part or total upon self-duplicating paper so that sufficient copies would be available for immediate despatch to those persons concerned with investigation and research and publication.
12. **Accommodation Agency.**
Mr. Lionel Beer agreed to produce some facts and figures on the use of Accommodation Agencies.
13. It was agreed that the Chairman should approach CONTACT UK with a view to agreeing areas of co-operation and arranging further meetings between Research Sections.

B.W.

VICE-CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN MEETINGS.

Lionel Beer

From time to time we hear complaints to the effect "Why doesn't BUFORA organise meetings outside London?" or put more accurately, "Why doesn't BUFORA organise meetings in the provinces more often?" Some apparently committed ufologists have even given this as a reason for not seeking membership, regardless of the Association having members all over the U.K. and quite a number overseas as well. Now the position is this. The lectures organised in London have always been run on a self-supporting basis, and are not subsidised out of subscriptions, except for the mandatory A.G.M. in October. In fact the London meetings would probably not be viable in their present form, if they were not supported by non-members, who currently pay a 75% surcharge for the privilege of attending. Incidentally, although the London EVENING NEWS and EVENING STANDARD did not publicise our December lecture, I was fortunate enough to be allowed about 4 minutes airspace on BBC Radio London at 8.30 a.m. on the day to publicise the event, and had the curious experience of listening to myself on the radio while still in bed. As it turned out, Tim O'Brien gave, what was said by many present, to be the best and most interesting lecture of the season. Even our most technically qualified people were unable to shoot holes in his remarkable theories on the possible evolution of planetary life forms. Now returning to my original theme, I would remark that BUFORA's branches hold meetings locally, and are generally pleased to welcome non-members as guests. However, it is not practical for those of us residing in London to organise meetings in Liverpool for example since we do not have the necessary local expertise, such as knowledge of suitable locations, hire charges, or numbers likely to attend, etc. But if local members are willing to make the effort (this is a voluntary society) the N.E.C. will do their best to publicise a Liverpool event or whatever (bearing in mind our mailing dates), and would probably be willing to make a cash float available for pre-meeting expenses. In fact some of us would be willing, by invitation, to come and talk. Naturally we would expect there to be sufficient local support, so that some recompense could be made for travelling expenses. It is unreasonable to ask someone to travel 200 miles for an event which is only attended by 20 people! Let me give you an example of a successful meeting arranged by Robert Birkett and his colleagues of the Kettering UFO Research Group. I was invited to speak at the Kettering Manor House, on Saturday, 19th October. The Group organised a good write-up before the lecture in the Kettering EVENING TELEGRAPH, and distributed posters around the town. Consequently some 80 people turned up on a wet night and crammed into The Manor House, and a further write-up appeared after the talk. KUFORG were able to pay for the hire charge, press advert, my rail fare, and still have a bit left over for their funds. So the moral is, don't just sit there and moan, but get out and organise something yourself. BUFORA is setting an example by arranging a Spring Conference at the Grand Hotel, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, on 10-11th May, 1975, in conjunction with our Staffordshire Branch. Members of Midlands and Northern UFO groups are particularly invited to attend.

OMS LORE?

For anyone looking for something different and a bit of colourful escapism, I can recommend the film FANTASTIC PLANET. This is based on a Sci-Fi novel "Oms en Serie" by Stefan Wul, and designer Roland Topor provides the

film's clever graphics. This 72 minute French cartoon involves a superior race of 39 foot blue-skinned humanoids with bright red eyes, and tiny men-like creatures called Oms. The name clearly comes from the French word "homme" and the text ominously mentions that they came "from a distant planet that was destroyed." The fauna and flora of the planet YGAM are both fabulous and psychedelic; even bestial at times. It reminded me faintly of YELLOW SUBMARINE although the styles are hardly comparable, and FANTASTIC PLANET has continuity which the other lacked. It would be interesting to hear if the life-forms fit in with Tim O'Brien's theories! The message of the film concerns oppression and eventual conciliation. Although the Oms are the minute "underdogs," they made a right nuisance of themselves, and it was not for nothing that the giant DRAAGS carried out "de-ominisation" extermination programmes!

BUFORA HANDBOOK No. 1.

Handbook No. 1 was an excellent manual for investigators edited by Malcolm Bull, and published by the British UFO Association in the early sixties. We urgently need a reference copy for the BUFORA library and will be happy to pay for it. Please contact myself or Ivar Mackay.

LIONEL BEER.

CHARITIES

by Lionel Beer

Our Chairman, Roger Stanway, is anxious that BUFORA should adopt charitable status, because of the obvious financial benefits. So perhaps a few comments on this topic will not be amiss. The present laws on charitable status broadly provide that an organisation which relieves poverty, advances education or religion, or other purposes of benefit to the community, can be established as a charity. This means that it will not have to pay income tax, corporation tax or capital gains tax, (although not exempt from V.A.T.) and will be eligible for substantial rate relief and other benefits.

However, a number of anomalies have arisen, and utterances in and out of parliament have hinted that we shall see further changes in charitable law in the not too distant future. Changes in the law could even out existing unfairness as to which organisations can or cannot become eligible, but equally might deprive charities of some of their benefits, to the advantage of the exchequer or local rate-collecting authorities.

Many people wonder why the Lords Day Observance Society is eligible for charitable status, while the National Secular Society is not. The British Goat Society is a charity, but the Disablement Income Group is not. Excluding interest on investments, the major source of charitable income is from big business. In practical terms, your odd 10p-in-the-tin, does not count for much. Large companies, for example Courtaulds, ICI, Imperial Tobacco, Unilever, etc. contribute about 70% of the total raised for many appeals, possibly over £30 million in a year. Companies can use a seven year covenant which gives them relief on corporation tax. It remains to be seen whether BUFORA can command a minute slice! In 1972, over 1,000 new charities were registered with the Charity Commission. Besides traditional themes concerned with education and poverty, the new charities were concerned with such varied aims as helping drug addicts, promoting family planning, preserving the environment, promoting research, and promoting arts, culture and recreation.

DR. HYNEK LECTURES IN LONDON

In August of 1973, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, late of the US Air Force's PROJECT BLUEBOOK, author of "The UFO Experience," and Chairman of Astronomy at Northwestern University, Illinois, gave four lectures at the "International Festival of Yoga and Psychic Sciences," held at the Bloomsbury Centre Hotel, Coram Street, London, WC1.

His first two lectures were concerned with the exploration of the Universe. The second two, delivered on 11th August in the afternoon and evening, concerned unidentified flying objects.

In his first UFO talk, introduced by Roger Stanway, Chairman of the British UFO Research Association, Dr. Hynek described his initial involvement with the UFO subject as an evaluator for the United States Air Force. He admitted his initial scepticism, and how he "got a kick out of smashing reports to bits." Later, he recognized the distinction between the majority of reports which could be explained rationally and the small residue which could not. The residue was quite different. He started to notice global patterns in the reports which indicated them to be of serious scientific import and significance.

When Dr. Hynek lectures to scientific audiences, he usually begins by presenting data to convince them of the reality of the phenomenon. But Dr. Hynek assumed that the Festival audience consisted mainly of the "converted," so he omitted to describe the data.

Hynek has come to recognise that there are reports of sightings from highly-qualified observers, and that the UFO experience is a very real event to the observer. He pointed out that a UFO is what remains unidentified *after* proper evaluation, and that the Colorado University Project adopted the wrong definition (i.e., a phenomenon that appears strange to the observer).

He reviewed the ridicule and comical cartoons that have appeared in the press, and which have "muddied up the field."

In Hynek's original analysis, Hynek had found up to 20 per cent of cases where the evidence offered suggested no explanation. Since then, a greater proportion had been explained. He described the Air Force's attitude: "Since all but one to two per cent of reports are explicable, we could try harder and solve them all. But if we could solve them all if we did try harder, why keep trying?"

Hynek said that the British Ministry of Defence had taken this lead from the USAF, and so had reached much the same conclusion.

Dr. Hynek then used some slides to illustrate the remainder of his first talk. He showed some pictures of IFOs (identified flying objects), including lenticular clouds, time-exposure of the moon and Venus, a double-exposure with a "wall-lamp UFO," and searchlights reflecting from haze. He pointed out that UFOs are inaccessible to study, so it is *UFO reports* which form the subject for scrutiny.

He considered the question of hallucination, and indicated that we do not receive reports of phenomena out of the *general context* of UFO reports (i.e., there are no "unidentified sailing objects"), and so the imagination on which such hallucinations would have to be based is rather limited. The UFO reports, in fact, fall roughly into the six categories Hynek has described in his book, and follow the pattern of "prototypes." He explained the use of the "strangeness"- "probability" diagram in showing the relative importance of sighting reports.

He ended his first talk by saying that we need to take a "Court of Law" approach when considering "UFO evidence."

The second UFO lecture was about "Future Trends in UFO Investigations." This was introduced by Gordon Creighton of the "Flying Saucer Review."

Dr. Hynek said that at this stage in investigation, the "kooks and crackpots" were getting out of the field.

He reminded us of the existence of the "Invisible College"—the group of scientifically-qualified people who would, given time and funds, be willing to take an objective look at the UFO problem.

Hynek then outlined the ideas he and his colleagues had been formulating for a "UFO Center"—ideas which have now become a reality.

He said that the UFO phenomenon, like meteorites in the eighteenth century, does not yet fit into the framework of modern science. Of all scientists, physicists are most ready to deal with the phenomenon. The phenomenon itself is indicative, perhaps, of the need for a "new kind of physics," and there is also a need for a younger set of people with open minds.

If the UFO problem does not fit existing methodology, it is necessary to develop a special methodology to deal with the problem.

Hynek praised the work of Dr. Claude Poher, Director of the High Altitude Sounding Rockets Division of the French National Centre for Space Studies. Dr. Poher, among other things, had made a statistical study of French case characteristics against the worldwide body of cases. This is an interesting kind of research which has also been carried out by Dr. Jacques Vallée.

Dr. Hynek also stressed, as he often does, the need for specialization in the UFO field, and drew attention to the specialist approach adopted by Ted Phillips in his study of landing marks.

He further stressed the danger of jumping to conclusions about UFOs, such as premature acceptance of the extraterrestrial hypothesis.

In "the most important part of this talk," Dr. Hynek explained the modus operandi that would be adopted by the "UFO Center." Reports would first be submitted to a Clearing House, which would then pass the reports on to an investigative department, a central data-bank, and a research and analysis department. The investigative department would consist of a body of trained investigators who would thoroughly investigate each case by giving it the "FBI treatment." The investigative department would also issue technical reports and would ultimately run mobile, instrumented vehicle units. The central data-bank would consist of a computerized record of sighting reports, which would perhaps be accessible to the United Nations Organization. The research and analysis department would utilize in-house and outside labs to investigate cases where physical effects had been reported and to analyze any physical traces or photographic evidence.

The Center would also incorporate a major library of UFO and related publications, a publications centre, and a Public Relations Office.

As I have already said, many of these ideas are now in active operation, and interested persons may contact the Center for UFO Studies at the address:

P.O. Box 11, Northfield, Illinois 60093, USA.

MARK STENHOFF, F.R.A.S., (Dept. Phys., RHC, Univ. Lond.).

15th August, 1974.

WHAT YOU SAY . . .

Dear Sir,

You may be interested in some experiments I have conducted with a simple gyroscope mounted firmly on a small stand.

Using a sensitive electric balance I ascertained the weight of the gyroscope (at rest) as 166.37g. I then started-up the rotor of the gyroscope and reweighed it whilst the rotor was still revolving rapidly. The resultant weight was 166.32g (0.05g less than when it was at rest), which gradually increased to its original weight as the rotor lost speed and finally stopped.

This poses the question, "Does the rotating gyroscope create its own gravitational field (anti-gravity) which opposes (and cancels to an extent) the effect of the gravitational pull of the earth, proportional to the speed at which the gyroscope rotates?"

If the above were so and we assume that UFOs *are* extraterrestrial vehicles, it might explain how, by a phenomally rapid rotation of the massive rim of a saucer-shaped craft, the gravitational pull of the earth could be cancelled and the craft rendered almost totally weightless. This would account for the "falling-leaf" motion observed by many, which seems to be indicative of very little effective weight of these craft. Very little propulsion would be needed to overcome the friction of the air, due to the shape of the craft, and very high speeds could be attained.

Furthermore, the gyroscopic action of the craft's rotating rim would make for a very stable vehicle and also provide two other very important factors:—

- (1) It would create an artificial gravity in and around the static (non gyrotary) parts of the craft. This would overcome the problems of inertial forces that would otherwise be experienced by the craft and its occupants when making drastic changes in direction at high speeds.
- (2) This gravitational field would attract air molecules to the external surfaces of the craft which would be carried along with it. Thereby alleviating heat generated by friction between the craft and the surrounding atmosphere as it travels through it. (The only friction would be between the air dragged along by the gravitational field and the surrounding atmosphere).

All this hinges on the apparent loss in weight of a spinning body and I realise, with my limited knowledge of Physics, that I could be very mistaken in my conclusions. Perhaps someone has other ideas. I would be glad if someone would carry out similar experiments under more controlled conditions.

Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL A. ROUSE,
Leicester (1974).

FILM

Will readers interested in the proposed showing of the Stanford Research Institute film of URI GELLER, at Campbell College, Belfast, please write (with S.A.E.) to:—

J. C. U. R. (Uri film), The Demense,
Lurgan, CRAIGAVON,
Co. Armagh, N. Ireland.

Dear Mr. Oliver,

I have just read the current BUFORA Journal with great interest, especially now that it holds so much variety.

My reason for writing is that in the 'Mimi Gorzelle Contact' the contactee says about the stethoscope with which she was examined by a "spaceman" that it was placed at the back of his neck—"which also," she said, "must contain a gland very sensitive in reception which we know nothing about, since I have studied the psychic centres and I know of none on the back of the neck." That she has studied the psychic centres I do not doubt. Since she mentions the head, throat, heart and solar plexus, she evidently means the seven force centres in the etheric body (the other three are the base of the spine, the sacral centre and the centre between the eyebrows). However, it is the spinal system related to these centres that she obviously did not know about. In the East, except for the two head Chakras (the crown and the centre between the eyebrows), the centres are located on the spine and not in the front of the body as in the Western world.

Occultists know the centre at the nape of the neck, close to the upper cervical centre of the spinal column, to be related to the higher states of knowledge—or what I personally would term the inpouring of knowledge. UFO contactees or sightees (including myself to a lesser degree, hence my interest in the explanation) have experienced pain, discomfort, warm glows at the nape of the neck varying with the degree of knowledge or awareness to which they have been subjected.

Strangely enough, Gordon Creighton mentioned this fact in FSR Vol. 19, No. 6, in connection with the Buenos Aires kidnap of a building worker in 1972.

Name and address supplied.

Dear Editor,

So far as the Loch Ness monster is concerned I believe the elusive lake serpent to be a "Thought Entity."

First—a quotation from "Ancient and Forbidden Knowledge" to make clear what a thought entity is: "These artificial entities were not created in the natural manner, but were created by the minds of men, and are highly concentrated class of thought forms. They are not entities in the strict sense of the word, having no life or vitality, except that which they borrow, or have been given by their creators. The majority of these "thought entities" are created unconsciously by persons who manifest a strong desire-force, which is accompanied by a definite mental picture of that which they desire. Many occultists have learned the art of creating them consciously. Strong wishes for good or evil tend to manifest form and a semblance of vitality in these 'artificial entities.'

These entities are, however, under the law of thought attraction, and go only where they are attracted."

Perhaps there was a group of people in the distant past who lived near Loch Ness and worshipped a serpent-like God or even the Devil. Many civilisations of the past worshipped the Devil or a God in the form of a snake or serpent.

The concentrated thought power of these people might have combined to form a 'thought entity' resembling Satan in the guise of a serpent. Those who have read articles on the nature of 'Ghosts and Apparitions,' will no doubt know that

the majority of ghosts appear near a source of water. There is a strong electrical force (I have heard!) surrounding any body of water, and this field of energy seems to 'feed,' or strengthen an apparition.

The Loch Ness creature may well be a kind of ghost—or 'thought entity'—kept alive by the energy surrounding water, and also by the continuous belief and interest by tourists and local people.

Something strange happened recently to a reporter and an exorcist who visited the Loch (F.S.R. Vol. 19, No. 5). The exorcist obviously believed the monster was a psychic manifestation of evil. So do I! F. W. Holiday (the reporter) accompanied the retired vicar and later that evening stayed at the home of Mrs. Cory who lived near the Loch. That same evening the house was 'attacked' by something unknown. An invisible thing hurled itself at the house in a most threatening manner. (This might have had something to do with the recent landing of a UFO, then again it might have had something to do with Nessie). I do not know how UFOs 'tie in' with this, but I feel that the Loch Ness Monster could be an evil thought entity created by the combined thought power of serpent-God or 'devil' worshippers.

Many witnesses of this creature compared its physical appearance to that of the extinct Pleisiosaurus. When other people hear this description, and visit the Loch hoping to see the monster; the apparition might gradually change its form to suit the image already formed in the minds of visitors. The apparition is kept 'alive' though its image changes slightly. . . . I expect this idea sounds 'way out' but so do some of the theories concerning UFOs. If the creature is a kind of ghost, it might explain why it can survive in an area where there is no food.' Keep up the good work!

Yours sincerely,

LORRAINE McDONALD,
Banstead, Surrey.

Dear Sir,

. . . The summer number of BUFORA Journal carried an article by G. Burrows on a suggested meteorological origin of UFOs. Although this theory is not new, it was used during the 1950s by the Menzel school, nothing appears to have been heard of it since that time, presumably it was realised that the required conditions for the formation of UFO like plasma simply cannot exist in nature. As with other theories which attempt to explain *all* UFO sightings, the theory falls down when applied to specific cases. Let's examine Mr. Burrow's proposition in some detail.

It is proposed that gases can occur in atmospheric disturbances, i.e. tornadoes and "cyclones," and when electrically charged, can produce glowing saucer or cigar shaped appearances. I have no doubt that this is entirely possible in the described laboratory experiments, and indeed, flashes of lightning are frequently observed during the passage of tornadoes. However, Wallington and Scorer have shown that very precise conditions are required for the formation of a tornadoe, or related phenomena, they are:

"—unstable air masses on the forward side of a trough of low pressure; the presence of a cold front; moist, unstable air from ground level up to a few thousand feet, capped by a very shallow stable layer under a deep and relatively dry, unstable layer of air."

Such conditions can only occur in summer or early autumn, between noon and before dusk and in warm, humid conditions. A tornado with sufficient drop of pressure in the vortex for the formation of the postulated plasma, is believed to occur in this country about once in two years.

Now, by far the greatest number of UFO sightings occur after sunset and are frequently reported during the winter months. For instance, the well-known low level sighting by a Vauxhall delivery driver, occurred near Tring reservoirs in the early hours of the morning in January, when the weather conditions were below freezing, with a clear sky during a typical winter anti-cyclone. It is, of course, entirely impossible for a tornado, or anything similar, to form in these conditions, in fact, it is improbable as the formation of an icicle in the middle of a blast furnace. It must be remembered that UFO reports come from the Antarctic, from snow covered Finland and Canada when the night is clear, indeed, UFOs have been reported from every hour of the day and night, from every month of the year, and from every part of the globe and during every conceivable meteorological condition.

I suggest that Mr. Burrows' theory, ingenious as it may be, can only explain a minimal number of sightings and consideration of the weather conditions during a specific UFO report will, no doubt, rule out the plasma theory.

L. MOULSTER,
Dunstable.

—o—

MEETING AT NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME

On the evening of Saturday, 23rd November, during the Committee's Policy Planning Weekend, a public meeting was held in the Northwood Room of the Newcastle-under-Lyme Post House. This meeting was sponsored by the North Staffordshire Branch and was attended by some thirty members and visitors.

The Association Chairman, Mr. Roger Stanway welcomed those present and introduced the first speaker, Mr. Lionel Beer. Lionel presented some topical notes on the current UFO scene in Britain and overseas. He compared the position in France, the U.S.A., and Britain. He commented on the American Air Forces Blue Paper and Old Blue Moon projects and on the success of Dr. Hynek's "Center for U.F.O. Studies." He also discussed some French statistics based on 1000 world wide cases.

The next speaker was Mr. Roger Stanway. He outlined the details of three sightings in the Broad Heath district of Staffordshire, one in 1677, the second on 24th June, 1954 and the third on 21st October, 1954. He also gave details of several other sightings in Staffordshire in 1955, 1959 and 1963.

Roger was followed by Tony Pace, who showed slides and commented on the 1967 wave in the area, which led up to the publication of "U.F.O's, Unidentified, Undeniable" also slides of two more recent UFO cases.

After a break for refreshments, Lionel Beer showed slides of UFO photographs and newspaper cartoons relating to UFOs.

The evening closed with a short period of questions and discussion.

T.W.

BOOK REVIEW

The Cosmic Connection—An Extraterrestrial Perspective, by Carl Sagan. Hodder and Stoughton, 1974. £3.50.

Lest you think that the noted astronomer Carl Sagan has joined the ranks of the contactees (as the title of this recent book might suggest), I must hasten to reassure you that the "connection" in the title is between the mind of mankind and a wider understanding of the cosmos. The "extraterrestrial perspective" is not a ufonaut's view of mankind but an understanding of planet Earth as part of the solar system and the galaxy. Dr. Sagan has in fact written a discursive book that ranges from a discussion of his work on the Mariner spacecraft and the results they achieved, and his acquaintance with dolphins, to a review of recent ideas found in astronomy. And these difficult subjects are treated in his usual readable manner.

Readers of this journal will probably find the book's most interesting and most unsatisfactory section to be number 28—"Has Earth been visited?" Dr. Sagan neatly, though unwittingly, hammers home another nail into the coffin of the extraterrestrial hypothesis, by showing mathematically that there would need to be 10,000 spacecraft launches per year from each advanced civilisation in our galaxy in order for one UFO to reach earth each year (assuming that they called upon every planet possibly bearing life which they found in their travels). Also such a vast number of craft would require some 1% of the stars of the galaxy to be processed to provide materials for their fabrication.

Having disposed of the ET hypothesis, there is no other scientifically acceptable explanation for the sighting reports of UFOs, and he therefore dismisses UFO reports as being unreliable and inaccurate. "There are no reliably reported cases of strange machines landing and taking off, for example," he tells us on page 200.

For those who are still enamoured of the idea of extraterrestrial space travel, this book will provide a "jolly good read," but for those who suspect that the truth behind the UFO phenomenon is a deal more complex and evasive than previously thought, THE COSMIC CONNECTION does not attempt to grapple with the pertinent questions.

COLIN BORD.

BOOKS FOR SALE

The UFO Experience by Dr. Allen Hynek. 7 plates. 276 pages.	£2.70
UFOs From Behind the Iron Curtain. Well illus'd. 320 pages.	£3.20
UFOs Here and Now by Gosta Rehn. 1974, 8 plates. 200 pages.	£3.10
Beyond Earth : Man's Contact with UFOs by Ralph & Judy Blum.	60p
Invisible Residents by Ivan Sanderson, 50p; Uninvited Visitors.	50p
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Crawford Street, London W1H 1HS.**

The British U.F.O. Research Association Research Bulletin

KEEPING UP WITH THE TIMES

The climate is definitely changing. The attitude towards UFO research is becoming more and more positive. At long last there are unmistakable signs that the scientific community and even the establishment are waking up to the fact that there exists a novel and most extraordinary phenomenon which refuses to fit into the framework of modern scientific knowledge.

Flying Saucer Review should be complimented on bringing to our attention the revelations earlier this year by non less than Robert Galley the French Minister of Defence that his government has been officially investigating UFO reports since the great wave of sightings in 1954. This admission may well have been forced upon him by the wide spread interest and concern shown by the French people during the recent major rash of sightings beginning in the Autumn of 1973.

Autumn '73 in the U.S.A. also saw an unprecedented number of UFO reports and it was therefore reassuring to know that besides America's major UFO organisations such as A.P.R.O. and N.I.C.A.P., Dr. J. Allen Hynek's Centre for UFO Studies in Illinois was rapidly gaining support and facilities from the scientific fraternity. I am glad to report that BUFORA has now joined the Centre which is open to membership from both organisations and individuals who are "interested in furthering serious scientific work on the UFO problem."

Certain developments in the last twelve months exemplified by the above, strongly emphasise the fact that we in BUFORA must not only improve our image but more important, the quality of research and investigation in this country. The old Ufology is dead. Some of it, like the "Holes at the Poles" and the "Hollow Earth" unfortunately, just won't lie down! We must ensure that BUFORA participates in this new era of objective research. The signs are there; much improved sighting report forms are almost finalised; the investigators' handbook of basic field techniques is nearly finished; and it has been "noted" that a number of new and enthusiastic UFO groups have sprung up, particularly in the North of England. It is hoped that a firm basis for co-operation can be established between them and the Association.

Next year we can look forward to BUFORA becoming a limited company and a charity with a much improved status and some financial advantages. Last but no means least there is the Spring National Research and Investigations Conference to be held in Staffordshire in May, 1975. This is perhaps the most ambitious event of its kind we have attempted. Hopefully it will encourage other similar seminars and promote the study of the UFO phenomenon on a level which hitherto has been generally unattained in the U.K.

ANTHONY R. PACE.

INVESTIGATORS' CONFERENCE — 8th March, 1975

Ken Phillips has been authorised to hold a Special Weekend Conference for Regional Investigation Co-ordinators and local Investigators. Investigators from other organisations are also welcome to attend. The main purpose of this meeting is familiarisation with investigations techniques and agreeing contingency plans in the event of a future wave of sightings. Further information is available from:

KEN PHILLIPS, 26 Chevening Road, Kensal Rise, NW6 6DD.

BUFORA NATIONAL RESEARCH AND INVESTIGATIONS CONFERENCE — 10th/11th May, 1975

This two day conference is being organised in conjunction with the Staffordshire Branch of BUFORA and is to be held at the Grand Hotel in Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent. See Conference Booking Slip for further details.

MOTOR VEHICLE INTERFERENCE PROJECT

The Project is advancing slowly and as an example of the many opinions and comments we are receiving from the team members the following idea from T. R. Dutton of D.I.G.A.P., Manchester is reproduced in the Bulletin.

IDEA:-

That some UFOs are research vehicles utilizing microwave emissions for sensing and propulsion purposes. Such emissions could explain many of the physical effects associated with them. Emissions of this nature might be simply a bi-product of the propulsion system.

The Physical Evidence:-

1. Conical beams of light terminating abruptly in mid-air. Many of these are described as searchlights having blue or blue-green colourations. An intense beam of high frequency radio energy could produce ionisation of atmospheric oxygen and nitrogen to produce this effect. Ionisation would cease abruptly when beam intensity fell below that required to induce the effect, producing the observed "chopping" of the visible beam.

2. High intensity microwave emissions induce heating in objects close to the source. This could account for the scorching of vegetation, and possibly the sterilization of soil on the sites of reported landings. Skin burns reported by close-encounter witnesses could also be explained in this way. Effects could be lethal, especially if the r.f. emission is associated with ultra-violet and x-radiations.

3. Interference with radio transmissions, especially short-range microwave systems, *e.g.* police radios. A UFO in the vicinity of transmitter or receiver could behave as a random radio-noise generator (A Jammer). The effect could be incidental rather than intentional, being possibly associated with an unconventional propulsion system.

4. Interference with car electrical systems.

- (a) Radio interference. This is covered by 3 above.
- (b) Failure of all systems; radio, lights, ignition and starter motor.
Complete recovery after disappearance of UFO.

This is particularly enigmatic, but the only sensible explanation seems to be temporary interference with the common "earth" circuit. On modern cars this is the car bodywork. Current flow through the steel framework of the vehicle might be interrupted by an intense microwave field in the following ways:-

- (i) The production of powerful eddy currents. These could produce heating and increase electrical resistance of the steel body. However, informed opinion is that to produce the effects reported, the heating would have to be severe enough to at least blister the paintwork.
- (ii) By producing current leakage to the Earth via ionisation paths induced in the surrounding air. This idea may be tenable in cases where "airglow" is reported, but many reports lack this observation in the vicinity of the car.
- (iii) Modification of the conductivity of metals by interference with the atomic structure.

Metals are conductors by virtue of "free" electrons in the outermost electronic shells. These loosely-bound electrons are able to move from atom to atom under the influence of an electrical potential difference (*i.e.* an applied voltage) across the sample.

It is just possible that an intense r.f. field will inhibit the free flow of electrons produced by a 12V. car battery or dynamo. This effect is apparently not known to electronics engineers, but ignorance of it may be due to lack of practical experience; that is to say that we have no precedent to date.

Laboratory Investigations:-

The major item of equipment would be a microwave-beam generator capable of producing ionisation of atmospheric air in its immediate vicinity. Such a device is not likely to be already in existence (except perhaps, at Fylingdales). Using this, the conductivity of metals, especially steel, could be investigated under conditions of increasing field-strength. A more elaborate experiment would simulate a car in essential details; *i.e.* a battery or dynamo powering, say, a lighting circuit, might be enclosed in a steel-box. The box would form the return circuit from bulb to battery, and would be insulated from a conducting surface by rubber pads.

WANTED

BRANCH AND SOCIETY LIAISON OFFICER

The National Executive Committee of BUFORA have agreed that a Branch and Society Liaison Officer be appointed as soon as possible, in order to improve contact between BUFORA Branches and reputable UFO Groups and Societies up and down the country. Such a person would need to be enthusiastic, knowledgeable and tactful, with spare time and willingness to travel. The Committee would be prepared to reimburse all reasonable travelling expenses in connection with such liaison. Would any one interested in this position please apply to the Hon. Secretary, Miss B. Wood, 6 Cairn Avenue, Ealing, London, W5 HX.

SOME FURTHER EXCITING NEWS ON THE BETTY & BARNEY HILL CASE OF 19th/20th SEPTEMBER, 1961

The article reproduced below and on the next page is taken from the A.P.R.O. Bulletin, September-October, 1974. Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, Inc., (A.P.R.O.) of 3910 E. Kleindale Road, Tucson, Arizona 85712, is one of the major U.F.O. research groups in the States. Membership is U.S. \$9.00 and enquiries should be sent to this address

AN ANALYSIS OF THE FISH MODEL

The Betty and Barney Hill experience has become one of the classic cases of its type in U.F.O. annals. The Portsmouth, New Hampshire, couple claimed they suffered a puzzling memory loss immediately following a close-range U.F.O. observation on the night of September 19-20th, 1961. About a week and a half to two weeks later Mrs. Hill said she had a series of vivid dreams in which she and her husband were abducted by humanoid beings and subjected to a physical examination aboard the U.F.O. These dreams so impressed Betty Hill that in November, 1961, she wrote a five-page account of her dream episodes describing, among other things, a star map that allegedly showed her abductors' home star and routes of trade and exploration between the star and others nearby. But it was not until 1964 that Mrs. Hill, under post-hypnotic suggestion, reproduced the map in a drawing. (Both Mr. and Mrs. Hill were hypnotized by a Boston psychiatrist and, while in a trance state, independently told similar stories of being captured and examined aboard a U.F.O.)

Since the star pattern represented, in a sense, something tangible from the Hill experience, the existence or non-existence of this pattern might be tested. If the map were a genuine portrayal, several assumptions would be obvious at the outset: (1) the home star must be one of two large circles connected by many lines; (2) the map was made from a vantage point near the origin star; (3) our sun was present somewhere on the map with a line to it, and therefore (4) the map depicted our local stellar neighbourhood.

Nevertheless, the task of isolating and identifying a unique pattern of a dozen stars from thousands in the sun's vicinity presented a formidable challenge. Only a few interested amateurs made any serious attempt to uncover the pattern. In 1968 one gentleman with some knowledge of the heavens wrote to me, discussing his approach to the problem, and then closed his lengthy letter with the following: "I would like to add that this is one amateur's attempt to solve a riddle that, I believe, deserves professional help." Of course, he was right, but unfortunately few professional astronomers would have dared tackle such a project because, in the first place the U.F.O. subject, in general, is frowned upon by the scientific community and, secondly, the Hill case simply is too sensational a report to warrant the expenditure of even a modicum of energy when there are "more important" problems awaiting solution. That, I sadly report, still is the prevailing attitude toward U.F.Os. among the vast majority of scientists.

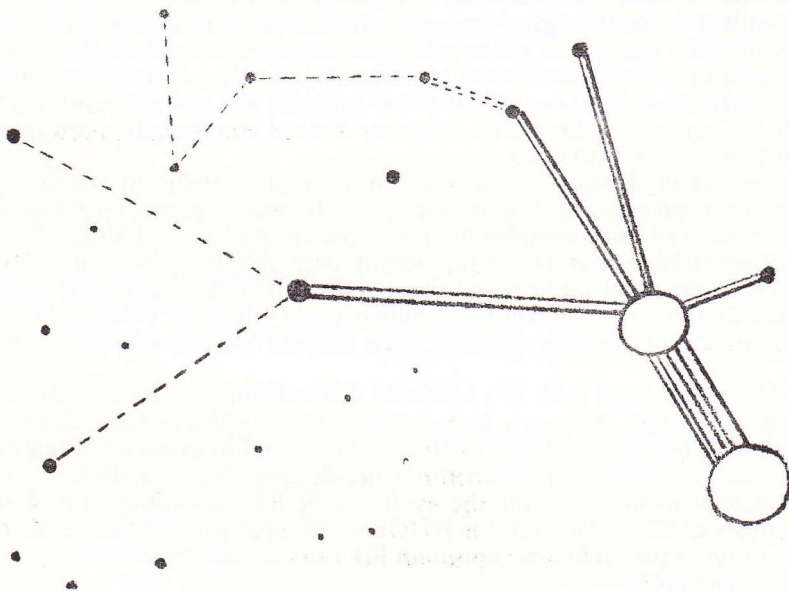
THE FISH MODELS

In 1966 Marjorie E. Fish, a 34 year old elementary schoolteacher in the little town of Oak Harbour, Ohio, decided to search for the star pattern by constructing a three-dimensional model of the volume of space surrounding the sun. Ms. Fish, though self-taught in astronomy, is an extraordinarily gifted and dedicated person.

She has a B.S. degree in sociology (with a minor in science), is a MENSA member, and includes among her many interests anthropology, biology, photography, art, and sculpture. Her persistent quest for the precise pattern shown on the Hill map make a fascinating story which can only be summarized here.

After completing her first small model of all known stars out to five parsecs (16 light years), Marjorie realized she would have to cover a larger volume at increasing radius from the sun if she expected any hope of success. Subsequent models consisted of up to 259 beads suspended on string, each bead representing a star coloured and sized according to spectral class and positioned at its correctly scaled distance and direction from the sun.

Ms. Fish anticipated discovering many patterns that would resemble the Hill map. But this was not to be the case, and eventually only one remarkable set of stars emerged. It was a search that required six years, more than 20 models of solar neighbourhood out to 20 parsecs (65 light years), the checking of thousands of stars in a dozen catalogs, and thousands of hours of photography and visual inspection of the models from different angles. Because she experienced difficulty in obtaining the star catalogs she needed, it took Marjorie two years to locate what she believed were the first five stars in the pattern. Another seven or eight months revealed the next four stars. Finally, more than three additional years of intensive work were necessary to find the last three stars in the pattern.



A visit to Betty Hill's home proved especially helpful in 1969. For the first time apparently, Mrs. Hill disclosed that the star map she allegedly viewed seemed three-dimensional (like a reflective hologram), appeared about three feet wide and two feet high, and contained tinted stars that glowed.

The star Zeta Tucanae, though not a visible part of the Hill drawing, led directly to the discovery of the final stars in the pattern in the early autumn of 1972. For some time Zeta Tucanae had been a prime candidate as the tenth pattern star but stubbornly refused to fit into the network. Finally, Marjorie realized the star might be occulted by Zeta¹ or Zeta² Reticuli from Betty's viewing position (the latter two stars were described as being larger than the others—the size of nickels—and could have hidden another star). For Zeta Tucanae to be obscured, Marjorie found she had to view it from below the model at a 45-degree angle. When this was tried, the full pattern appeared at once. The difficult angle plus blockage by the base and frame in various models had prevented earlier discovery of the complete pattern.

CONDITIONS FOR LIFE

Before we can understand the significance of Marjorie Fish's results, we must know something about the evolution and types of stars in our galaxy. Stars form when the heat of a contracting dust and gas cloud causes hydrogen fusion to occur in the core. After an unstable period of some millions of years, the star attains a state of equilibrium and begins to shine evenly, arriving on the so-called main sequence where it spends most of its life. When the core has exhausted a large fraction of its supply of hydrogen, the star leaves the main sequence, swelling into a red giant (or exploding) and then shrinking into a white dwarf or tiny neutron star.

Depending upon its original mass (the total quantity of matter in the star), the star normally falls into one of seven primary spectral classes—O, B, A, F, G, K and M—arranged in order of decreasing surface temperature. O stars are large, blue, and hot; G types (our sun) are yellow and of medium size and temperature; M stars are small, red, and cool. Each class is further divided into ten subgroups from 0 to 9 again with decreasing temperature.

If planetary life is to arise and evolve into complex intelligent organisms, a star must satisfy several criteria: (1) it must reside on the main sequence for at least three to four billion years to allow complex life forms time to evolve. This implies a fairly constant, nonvariable heat and light output over this long interval. The more massive a star, the faster it burns and the shorter its lifetime. Hot O, B and A stars have stable lifetimes of less than three billion years. Stars F through M meet the age requirements for life with residence times ranging from about four to 100 billion years.

(2) The planet must orbit in a habitable thermal zone around the star called the ecosphere. Although O to early F stars have wide ecospheres, their short lifetimes most likely rule out the possibility of life. Late K and M types have long lifetimes but also small ecospheres and sometimes life-destroying stellar flares. The most suitable main-sequence stars for the evolution of life, according to exobiologists, range from about F2 (Sagan Dole) or F5 (Oliver, Huang) to K1 (Dole) or K5 (Oliver, Sagan). G types probably offer optimum life zone conditions.

(To be continued).

The diagram above is based on the original sketch by Betty Hill of a map shown to her "by the leader aboard the ship." She was told that the heavy lines marked regular trade routes, and the broken lines recorded various space expeditions.

Note: Our own Sun is a class G2V Star.

RESEARCH INTO UFO SIGHTINGS INVOLVING REPORTS OF VEHICLE INTERFERENCE

PROJECT S.2.

This project was begun at the end of 1973 in the belief that there have been a number of sighting reports throughout the world which exhibited a common characteristic, that of the malfunctioning of a motor vehicle. When first planned it was believed that some conclusions might be achieved by the beginning of 1974. However, although we have encountered a number of factors which are extremely interesting, we soon realised that the whole project would take much longer than originally hoped. It is clearly time for BUFORA members to be informed of the enormous amount of work that has gone into this single study.

The team which we assembled for the project contained 11 members, together with the Edinburgh University UFO Society. The last named, with two individual members, have been compelled to withdraw, and the names of the remaining 9 members are given below:-

M. C. Clinch, G. A. Falla, A. P. Hall, A. R. Jones, D. Shelton, E. W. Taylor, B. J. Webb, F. J. Wood, and the Association Treasurer, A. West. General co-ordination has been done by the Research Projects Officer with the co-operation of the Research Director. Contributions by non team members will be acknowledged in the final published report. Since the beginning of 1974 over 70 communications have been mailed to the S.2. team, and over 40 replies have been received from the team. Mailing costs were only partly paid by the Association.

The first step taken was the beginning of a catalogue of vehicle interference cases. This at present stands at over 180 cases (throughout the world) and undoubtedly could be increased with more research. Clearly this phenomenon is more widely reported than most Ufologists are aware.

During this year while we were engaged in the study of past cases, we received two sightings reports which appeared to involve vehicle effects, cases 74-020 and 74-067. Further details of these cases will be published elsewhere. Because they were fresh we took the opportunity of sending to the R.I.C. concerned a supplementary questionnaire in an attempt to extract more information about the nature of the vehicles' malfunctioning. The supplementary questions will be incorporated in one of a new set of Research and Investigations Sighting Report Forms to be printed early in 1975. The questionnaire in its provisional form is as follows:-

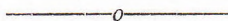
S.2. Q.1.

Supplementary questions on vehicle interference report

1. State full details of vehicle—make, year and model.
2. List all dashboard instruments carried (including warning lights).
3. Does the vehicle have a dynamo or alternator?
4. State any instrument readings noted (a) immediately before, (b) during, (c) after the sighting, and if it was a night time sighting whether the instrument panel was lit. Include here mileage readings.
5. State briefly driving conditions and handling state of vehicle for 10 minutes before, and up to, any malfunction or the sighting.
6. State gear changes (a) just before, (b) during, (c) after sighting.
7. Describe any malfunction of (a) engine, (b) lights, (c) instruments, (d) other mechanisms of vehicle, (i) prior to, (ii) during, and (iii) after sighting.

8. State whether motor of vehicle is (a) petrol, (b) diesel, (c) electric, or (d) other.
9. If petrol, state grade used (star rating), and also state whether the grade had been changed recently.
10. State any maintenance done on vehicle during previous few days.
11. State condition of battery prior to, during, and after sighting.
12. Describe any physical effects on (a) environment (outside vehicle), (b) the witness, (i) before, (ii) during, or (iii) after sighting.
13. State approximate number of miles driven by witness since driving test first passed. If uncertain, state—under 1,000 miles, 1,000 to 10,000 miles, over 10,000 miles.
14. State any effects noted by witness on metal objects in the vehicle or on the person, such as watch.
15. Is the body of the vehicle metal, fibreglass, or other ?
16. State any change noted in (a) air temperature, (b) air pressure, as estimated by witness.
17. State whether any damage to wiring of vehicle has occurred.
18. If vehicle has been checked by a vehicle mechanic immediately after sighting, state any report made, whether verbal or written.
19. State name and address of person who made the examination of the vehicle.

The above questions are intended for use by a BUFORA investigator, after the main sighting report form has been completed.



This questionnaire will be modified as the Project Team finds it to be necessary. One conclusion which may perhaps be drawn from the answers to our supplementary questions so far is that the ordinary witness notices very few details of instrumentation, and we must either hope for a sighting by a motor vehicle expert in a well equipped car, or try to extract more information from ordinary witnesses by alternative means (hypnosis?) and from their vehicles by new applications of existing techniques (rapid measurement of as many physical characteristics of the vehicles as possible, by getting investigators to the vehicles quickly). This is one aspect of our investigation techniques which I hope will be discussed at our Spring Research and Investigation Conference in Staffordshire next May.

Since this is a first stage report from the S.2. Team, I should like to take this opportunity of asking for the co-operation of the membership in answering the following questions:-

1. A number of vehicle sightings indicate that while petrol driven vehicles have often lost some motive power, the effect on diesel vehicles seems to be limited to failure of lights. This suggests electrical malfunction, rather than mechanical or fuel failure. Are there any cases where a diesel vehicle has lost power?
2. If microwaves are responsible for a breakdown in the electron flow, where does this occur? Are there any cases where a non-metallic bodied vehicle was stopped?
3. Are there any cases where the unidirectional flow of current, as opposed to alternating current, has been inhibited?

The Research Department intend to publish all the material which has been sent to us in the form of a single project report as soon as is practicable. But it is clear that our main achievement in this project will be to draw the attention of UFO students to the questions which are *not* being asked, rather than explain how a UFO causes interference in the operation of a vehicle. However, if we have any biologists in our membership who would like to consider the possibility of a similar process being involved in the paralysis of the legs or arms of a witness by a beam, it may be that the whole sequence of operations is simpler than at first appears to us, as an interference with the ion exchange which occurs when a current flows. This has been suggested recently by E. W. Taylor in discussions with Trevor Whitaker. I am not certain, however, that this effect can be obtained by us.

I should like to thank Richard Nash, R.I.C. in Hants., for his close co-operation in the recent sightings, when the National Co-ordinator had the initial report. Both the N.I.C. and R.I.C.s have a great deal of work to do before any sighting report can be published.

C. F. LOCKWOOD,
Research Projects Officer.

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APPEAL for INVESTIGATORS

While the general position has greatly improved, our investigation department is still hampered by a grave shortage of investigators in some areas of the United Kingdom. Anyone interested in assisting the Association in this way is invited to write to N.I.C., Mr. K. PHILLIPS, 26 Chevening Road, Kensel Rise, London NW6 6DD. Previous experience is not called for as some field training may be given, but common sense and enthusiasm are essential.

A.W. for N.I.C

* * * * *

WARMINSTER SKYWATCH CARAVAN will be available from Easter until the end of October, details from Mrs. M. Carey, 61 Corton, Nr. WARMINSTER, Wilts., or Mr. A. West, 16 Southway, BURGESS HILL, Sussex.

* * * * *

1974 UFO SIGHTINGS CATALOGUE—PART I.

No.	Date	Time (GMT)	Location	Investigation	Evaluation
74001	4·1	23·05	Baldwins Gate, Staffs.	D. Blundred	Aircraft
74002	23·1	20·10	A3, Guildford By-Pass	O. Fowler	UFO
74003	12·2	15·45	Chester-le-Street	Prelim. Form	Insuf. Data
74004	26·1	18·00	Holywell, Flint	Prelim. Form	P. Astronomical
74005	19·1	16·55	Kingsbury, London	Prelim. Form	Insuf. Data
74006	24·1	19·25	Gobowen, Salop	J. M. Dickie	Astronomical
74007	5·1	20·40	Nr. Heytesbury, Wilts.	R. J. Nash	Army exercises ?
74008	8·2	17·15	Portsmouth, Hampshire	P. J. McKechnie	Aircraft
74009	18·1	09·15	London S.E.13	Richard Selmes	Bolide
74010	—	—	(under Investigation)	—	—
74011	11·5	19·45	Chingford, Essex	B. M. King	UFO
74012	—	—	(Under Investigation)	—	—
74013	25·1	22·30	Sale, Cheshire	C. Randles	Satellite and Stars
74014	7·4	20·45	Exmouth, Devon	Prelim. Form	Prob. Meteor
74015	15·5	23·10	Cambridge	Mr. Edwards	Prob. Aircraft
74016	19·5	20·24	Heanor, Derby	David Wilde	Prob. Astronomical
74017	—	—	(Under Investigation)	—	—
74018	—	—	(Under Investigation)	—	—
74019	·6	01·15	Worcester	M. Smith	Skylab and Debris
74020	6·6	22·55	Downton, Salisbury, Wilts.	Mr. J. Dibben	Skylab Rocket
74021	—	—	(Under Investigation)	Rodney Lloyds	—
74022	27·6	—	(Under Investigation)	Norman Beharrell	—
74023	July	Evening	Harborne, Warwicks.	Les Wilkes	Various Explan.
74024	24·4	20·20	Saltash, Cornwall	James Jeffrey	Skylab
74025	21·4	20·37	Bradford, Yorks.	2 Prelim. Forms	P. Satellites
74026	11·7	23·40	Nailsworth, Gloucester	Prelim. Form	Planet
74027	—	—	(Under Investigation)	Photograph	—
74028	19·7	19·15	Hartburn, Yorks.	Trevor Whitaker	UFO
74029	July	—	(Under Investigation)	Ian Vinton	—
74030	10·7	—	(Under Investigation)	Gordon Clegg	—
74031	22·7	23·00	Hartlepool, Co. Durham	Trevor Whitaker	Prob. Aircraft

This catalogue is intended simply as a list of the U.F.O. sightings which have been recorded by the Association for 1974, and will continue in subsequent Journals. From the 31 cases listed only three so far are of any significance.

Records Department.

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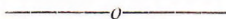
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