

1ST ISSUE

PROBE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

NUF.O.R. [SOUTHWEST].

M.A.U.F.O.G.



HOW WOULD YOU REACT ?

PROBE: THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF NUFOR (SOUTHWEST).
PUBLISHED QUARTERLY.

* * * * *

TERRY CHIVERS:	PUBLICITY/TREASURER
MIKE SEAGER:	FOREIGN LIAISON
IAN MRZYGLOD:	EDITOR/BRITISH LIAISON/ARTWORK
MISS JULIE BLAKE:	SECRETARIAL/ASSIST.TREASURER

oooOooo oooooOoooooOooooo oooOooo

EDITORIAL ADDRESS: 16, MARIGOLD WALK, (0272) 666270
ASHTON,
BRISTOL. BS3 2PD

FOREIGN LIAISON ADDRESS: 88, KINGS HEAD LANE, (0272) 646710
BEDMINSTER DOWN,
BRISTOL. BS13 7DD

oooOooo oooooOoooooOooooo oooOooo

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: £1.60 FOR 4 ISSUES (POSTAGE & PACKING FREE)

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHEQUES & P.O.'S PAYABLE TO
"NUFOR (SOUTHWEST)".

THE CONTENT OF "PROBE" DOES NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS AND
OPINIONS OF NUFOR (SOUTHWEST).

ARTICLES AND REPORTS APPEARING IN "PROBE" MAY BE USED BY ANYONE
PROVIDING DUE CREDIT IS GIVEN WHERE APPROPRIATE.



NUFOR [SOUTHWEST]

MAUFOG

National U.F.O. Research

Main HQ, Brighton.

Tel, 0272 666270
646710

16 Marigold Walk,
Ashton,
Bristol. BS3 2PD.

DATE 1st June 1980.

EDITORIAL

May I please take this opportunity to welcome you to NUFOR(SOUTHWEST). NUFOR?... yes you have possibly heard of them before. NUFOR is a group based in Brighton, and, at their request, we have set up using their name. We will now work alongside NUFOR (BRIGHTON), and strive to create a very co-operative relationship.

NUFOR(SOUTHWEST) exists as its own body, with an identity of its own, and we will be basing our research in the southwest of England, with an emphasis in the Wiltshire area. However, as circumstances dictate, when the number of sightings drops, to fill the magazine will necessitate delving into other areas. To further our investigations, we will also study UFO cases in other countries. But most of this is still in the planning stage, and only time will tell if we succeed in our aims.

To produce a magazine such as PROBE, is an extremely difficult task. First you have to cost it out, then see if it can be paid for. Next is the real problem; you have to fill it. True, if you look hard enough there is ample material around, but no-one (I assume) wants to read page upon page of newspaper cuttings. Selecting a reasonable balance of content is complicated, because the magazine must cater for the fellow researcher who can glean items for further use. It must also provide the newcomer to the subject with a basic insight into the UFO phenomenon. I hope this attempt will suit most of you.

As you can see, PROBE is the title that adorns this magazine. At this moment in time it seems to be an original name and not in use by any other group. If you should know of any group, team etc. using PROBE as a magazine title or group name, please let me know as soon as possible and I will change the name.

Our field research will be backed up with several items of electronic wizardry. Dave Kay, secretary of NUFOR (BRIGHTON) and his team provided us with these gadgets which include an Ultra-sonic sound detector and three infra-red detectors. These and many other pieces of equipment will help to show a more scientific approach to the UFO mystery, (even if we don't know how to work them), and perhaps help to back up visual sightings with technical evidence. Who knows?

I hope you will bear with me during the first few months, and please do not hesitate to send in your comments, criticisms and ideas that could help PROBE. The next issue will hopefully contain a letters page, and the most interesting letters received will be published.

Best wishes,

IAN M. MRZYGLOD
EDITOR.

Members of the NUFOR(SOUTHWEST) team will be on Cradle Hill, Warminster, most Saturdays, and will definitely be there on the second Saturday of every month. This arrangement was decided upon at the MAUFOG (Members of the Affiliated UFO Groups) meetings last year and will carry on indefinitely. All the groups should be covering their local hills on those particular nights. Anyone in the southern half of the country who would like to join in on one or more of these skywatches please write to Terry Chivers at the NUFOR(SOUTHWEST) address. We may be able to furnish you with your local group's address.

We are deeply indebted to Brian Smith who donated to us the giant 5ft plus UFO model which has been exhibited on the MAGPIE children's programme, not to mention countless UFO exhibitions. The amount of work and time which went into the construction of the Flying Saucer must be incalculable. The technical detail is astounding and has to be seen to be appreciated. We aim to have this model on display soon at an exhibition in Melksham, where its opening hatches (motorised), and numerous flashing lights and panels can be seen.

This exhibition should take place round about late August or September in the Art Centre, Melksham. Taking their share of the workload will be SEARCH WEST, the UFO Research group based in Melksham who are also members of the Affiliation. Together, we hope to put on the Wiltshire town's first UFO exhibition, and aim to make it a success. As it seems likely that it will take place before the next issue of PROBE is out, details will be available at the editorial address, or try phoning the number on page 1.

SEARCH WEST can be contacted at 120 Savernake Avenue, Melksham, Wilts. SN12 7HQ. We may be able to encourage more groups to participate in the exhibition, perhaps our 'sister' group in Brighton? The amount of technical resource they have is astounding. Over the past few years, they have managed to construct various electronic appliances, and recently put them all into one unit, F.R.E.D.A. Field Research Electronic Data Analyser is exactly what it says: it detects infra-red light in a 360 degrees radius, ultrasonic sound, radio waves on practically any waveband, the slightest noise through means of a parabolic dish, and anything else that moves. At the moment, they are rebuilding F.R.E.D.A. so that it can be carried in a small attaché case, a remarkable feat if they can do it. If NUFOR (Brighton) do attend the exhibition, F.R.E.D.A. will definitely be on show. Here's hoping!

CONTENTS:

UFO IS BLAMED IN ATTACK ON LAWMAN.....	3
UFO CITINGS.....	4
THE DUMB-BELL ASTEROID.....	5
HOW WOULD YOU REACT?.....	8
UFO CITINGS.....	9
MYSTERIOUS PYRAMID IN BERMUDA TRIANGLE.....	10
TERRY'S SKYWATCH PAGE.....	12
MORE UFO PUZZLERS.....	13
BOOK REVIEW.....	17
UFO CITINGS.....	18
METEORITES-POSSIBLE CAUSE OF WORCESTER UFOs.....	19
UFO LANDING ON OUTSKIRTS OF BRISTOL.....	20

UFO IS BLAMED IN ATTACK ON LAWMAN

When law officers responding to a call reached Marshall County deputy Val Johnson, they found his car smashed, its windshield broken, antenna bent and the car clock 14 minutes off.

Johnson, 35, said he was on patrol early Monday when he was attacked by "an UNIDENTIFIED THING" which dived at his car, causing him to lose control. "It sat there and appeared to be stationary, but when I got closer, boom, it was right there. I heard glass breaking, saw the inside of the car light up real bright with white light. It was extremely bright. That's all I can remember".

Sheriff Dennis Brekke calculated that the incident occurred about 1.40a.m. It was 2.19a.m. that Johnson called for help. Deputy Greg Winkowski who was on his way to help Deputy Johnson, asked him to describe the vehicle that hit him. "I don't know what the hell it was", responded Deputy Johnson.

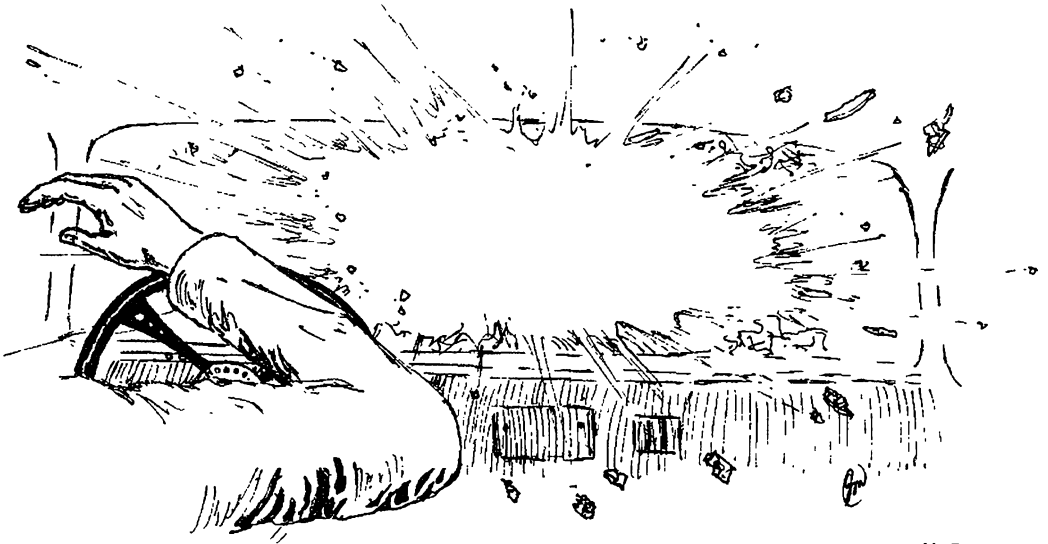
When Deputy Winkowski got to the scene, he found Deputy Johnson's car sideways on the road. The windshield and one headlight had been smashed, there was a small round dent in the hood. The red light on top of the car was broken and the two springmounted antenna were bent at angles of nearly 90°.

Deputy Winkowski called an ambulance and Deputy Johnson was taken to hospital and treated for "welder burns" to his eyes. Doctors said the burns could have been caused by very bright flash of light.

Deputy Johnson's wrist watch and the electric car clock were both 14 minutes slow, Johnson said he had checked both timepieces several times during that evening.

Five Federal Aviation Administration organisations were contacted in the area, and all said they had no knowledge of aircraft activity in the area.

Whatever hit the car must have been travelling extremely fast to bend the antennas without moving the springs. Sheriff D. Brekke said he was at a loss to explain the incident. "We don't know what this was, maybe it's something that can be explained. But at this point, we don't have an answer to it".



M.S.

UFO SIGHTINGS

CLIPPINGS FROM THE PRESS.

MANY SEE 'UFO' HOVER OVER OIL PORT - Western Mail 31.3.80

Investigations will begin today into a UFO sighting in West Wales which could be one of the most important since the spate of reported incidents began more than four years ago. Many people at Milford Haven are said to have seen a bright object in the sky on Saturday night. Local UFO investigator Mr. Randall Jones Pugh, of Roch, near Haverford-west, said it appeared to be one of the best reports so far. In one street at least 10 people are reported to have watched the UFO for more than 30 minutes as it hovered in the sky. One family later drew independent sketches which proved to be similar. Schoolboy Paul Duffield, of Coombs Drive, said, "It was quite high in the sky with an orange and red light on top". A spokesman at RAF Brawdy said a helicopter may have passed over Milford Haven but would not have been over the town for more than half an hour, and the Civil Aviation Authority's air traffic control centre at Burrington, Devon, said they had not been made aware of anything extraordinary in the district.

FLASHING LIGHT IN SKY REMAINS A MYSTERY - Cambridge Evening News 2.11.79

A mysterious flashing light seen in the sky over Cambridge has puzzled police and members of the public. The white light was spotted at around 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday. Inquiries to air force bases have failed to come up with an explanation. Cambridge police said they had received four calls about it from people at Coton, Little Abington, Burwell and in Cambridge, and the light had also been seen by an officer. "We cannot offer an explanation for it", said a police spokesman. "We checked with local air force stations but were not able to get any information. But we are not unduly perturbed about it". The "News" has had reports of three other sightings. Mr. Brian Mynott, of 4 Leech Lane, Little Eversden, said his wife first noticed the light flashing at 7.15 p.m. over the site at Harlton where the USAF fighter-bomber had crashed the previous night. He said: "I saw it when we went out at 7.10 p.m. We thought it was a plane to start with, but it was stationary for so long and we wondered if it was anything to do with the plane crash". Mr. Mynott said that when he returned home at about 9.15 p.m. he saw the light again. It had moved towards Madingley and it was jerking up and down. When he went to work at Pye Unicam next day two of his colleagues from Cambridge and Bottisham said they had also seen the light.

STRANGE SIGHTING IN SKY - John O'Groats Journal 21.12.79

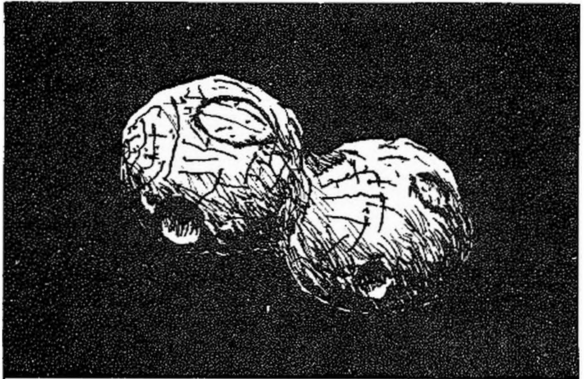
A woman got quite a fright when she looked up at the sky about ten o'clock on Wednesday morning. For Mrs. Delina Irvine, 2 Pilot Row, Papigoe, by Wick, saw a very strange object which she described as "a white ball with a large red ring round it like a band of fire". She said it looked enormous and was so bright she could only gaze at it for a few moments. Mrs. Irvine ran round for her son who lives nearby to tell him what she had seen but by that time the mysterious object had vanished without trace. "It only appeared in the sky for a few minutes but it gave me quite a shock," said Mrs. Irvine, who came to the country from Glasgow three years ago. She has never seen anything like it before. From our own investigations it would appear that no one else in the village saw this unusual object and neither the police nor the coastguard could give any information on the sighting or any explanation for it. A spokesman for Wick Airport said: "We fired a cartridge on Wednesday morning to scare birds from the runway but although it gives off a bright light it only goes about 100 ft. into the air and would not be visible for any distance". But he too knew nothing of the strange ball in the sky.

"THE DUMB-BELL ASTEROID"

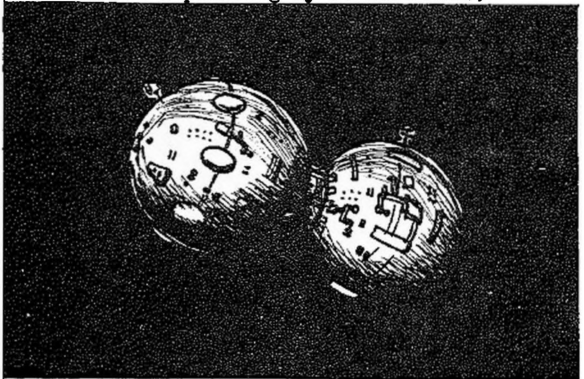
Beyond the main asteroid belt in one of the two "TROJAN CLOUDS" of asteroids that hang in gravitational balance between Jupiter and the Sun, is an extraordinarily shaped freak of nature. Asteroid 624 named "Hektor" is dumb-bell shaped. About ten years or so ago, before it s shape was defined, J. L. Dunlap and Tom Gehrels, also with the University of Arizona, concluded from many years of studying that Hektor's brightness occasionally varied as much as threefold as the body turned. This suggested that it could be either a spherical object with one bright hemisphere, or an elongated object seen alternately from the side and from the end. The sphere theory seemed unlikely, because this would imply the bright and dark hemispheres being aligned strictly east-west, so that when seen pole-on, there would always be an equal amount of bright/dark surface on view, even while the asteroid rotated on its axis. Dunlap and Gehrels chose the "elongated" possibility.

The origin of Hektor had a couple of possibilities. It could, because of its unusual shape, be a fragment or broken "chip" of a long-ago breakup of a larger parent body. The only problem here was that known fragments of breakups are very small; perhaps a few kilometers in size. But Hektor measures roughly 150 by 300 kilometers (90 by 180 miles). This estimation in size was recently put forward, by Dale P. Cruickshank of the University of Hawaii. The reflectivity of the Hektor's surface is very low, and would therefore have to be very large to produce the total observed brightness. But being this large, it should be subject to the same gravitational forces that tend to pull planets into roughly spherical shapes.

This point necessitated an explanation other than the "fragment" theory. William K. Hartmann of the Planetary Science Institute, Arizona, and Cruickshank suggested the second possibility. Hektor is the result of two components, (smaller asteroids), that happened to meet while traveling at the same speed and in nearly the same direction. This would mean that if they came together their speed relative to each other could be low enough to keep them from breaking apart in a collision.



ARTIST'S IMPRESSION OF ASTEROID 624.
(from a painting by W. Hartmann.)



OR COULD ASTEROID 624 LOOK LIKE THIS?

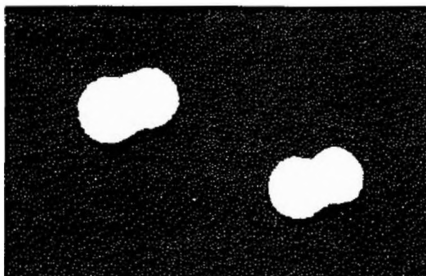
Despite creating a massive cloud of rocks and dust, the two asteroids might actually stay and "fuse" together. This year, tests may be carried out through spectroscopy to verify that the two ends (the formerly independent objects) are composed of different matter.

A very thorough and believable scientific explanation. But the shape of this dumb-bell asteroid is uncannily similar to many UFOs seen on earth and in space. The dumb-bell shape has cropped up several times; one of the most famous occasions being over Washington D.C. in 1952. These objects were shown on "blow-up" to be practically identical to the UFOs captured on 16mm film by Buzz Aldrin on the historic Apollo 11 flight.

Could this possibly mean that Asteroid 624, or "Hektor", is a giant spaceship, a derelict shell drifting in a perpetual orbit around our Sun? The theory of derelict alien spaceships floating aimlessly in the black void is far from new. Last year on July 27th 1979, Reveille published an article in which Russian scientists believed (and still do presumably) that a spaceship wreck from another planet is in orbit round the earth, at a distance of 1,240 miles. What is left are ten fragments, two measuring 100 feet across, that have been calculated by computers to have all originated from one massive object.

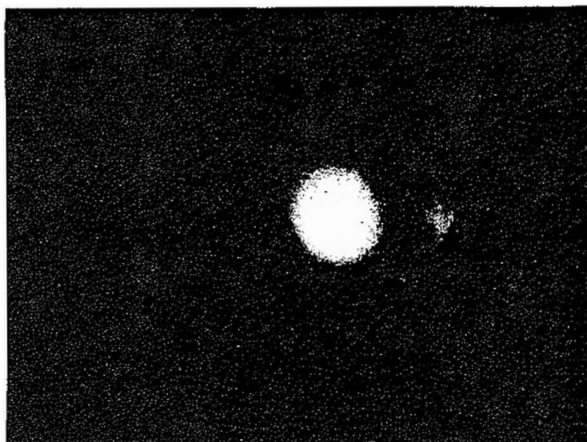


WASHINGTON D.C. JULY 19TH 1952.



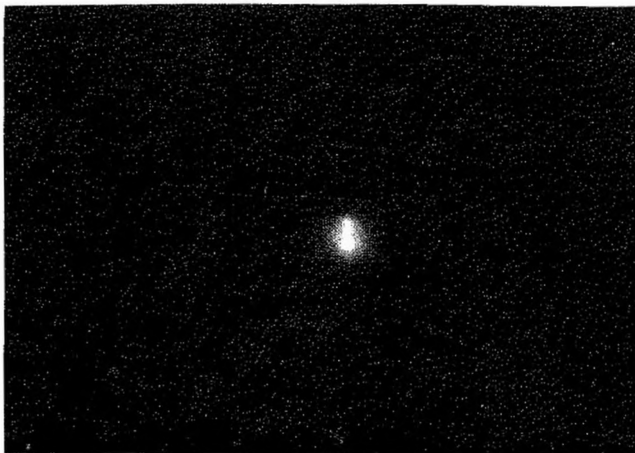
ABOVE: ENLARGEMENT FROM WASHINGTON D.C. PHOTOGRAPH.

RIGHT: EXTRACT FROM BUZZ ALDRIN'S 16mm FILM, JULY 19TH 1969.



Dr. Bozich said, "We found they all originated in the same spot on the same day - December 18th 1955". Apparently, there was a powerful explosion which ripped the spaceship apart. The fact that these fragments are in orbit have ruled out meteors - they do not have orbits - they plummet aimlessly through space. The Russian scientists also ruled out man-made objects from earth, since the first satellite, "SPUTNIK 1" was not launched until 1957. The original size of the craft is estimated to have been 200 by 100 feet.

RIGHT: WARMINSTER, AUTUMN 1976.



But being realistic, the size of Hektor makes it seemingly far too immense to be any kind of UFO, and Asteroid 624 is probably just that - Asteroid 624.

oooOooo

oooOooo

oooOooo

TARGET

THE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE FROM

NUFOR. (BRIGHTON).

£1.20 FOR 4 ISSUES.

NUFOR.
MR. D. KAY,
4, QUEENS SQUARE,
BRIGHTON.

"WARNINGS FROM FLYING FRIENDS" BY ARTHUR SHUTTLEWOOD.
AVAILABLE FROM NUFOR(SOUTHWEST) AT 70p + 50p FOR POSTAGE & PACKING.
EXCELLENT BOOK, HARDBOUND COVER, 266 PAGES AND ILLUSTRATED WITH
DIAGRAMS AND PHOTOGRAPHS.

PLEASE WRITE TO: 16, MARIGOLD WALK,
ASHTON,
BRISTOL. BS3 2PD. WHILE STOCKS LAST.

ALL CHEQUES AND P.O.s PAYABLE TO "NUFOR (SOUTHWEST)".

HOW WOULD YOU REACT?

Every week many of us visit our local hills for a few hours to watch the skies in the hope of spotting UFOs. Usually, the best we can hope for is one or two strange lights that defy any rational explanation. But the question was raised at the last MAUFOG meeting which took place in Frome, Somerset, 19th January 1980. "What would you do if they landed? What would you say to them?"

How can any of us imagine what we would do? We go to the hills wanting to see something, but not really expecting anything substantial. We all would love to witness a landing I'm sure, but none of us honestly anticipate anything of the kind. If one night when all is quiet, the clouds should suddenly flicker and light up.... and through them emerges a small 'scout craft' which silently glides to the ground in front of us, what would we honestly do?

Or imagine the situation where the heavens split to reveal a multitude of lights which cover a craft as monstrous as the one that landed in "Close Encounters Of The Third Kind". Sat in our cinema seats we all said, "Fantastic! I'd love to be there". But out on the hills the situation is far different. On Cradle Hill in Warminster, several times I have been unnerved by strange shapes in the shadows or which are silhouetted against the night sky. On all occasions, the culprits were young kids playing tricks by crawling on their hands and knees, and once a young chap on all fours in a field claiming 'to be looking for foxes'. I might add that I was not the only one who was worried. It is obviously this fear of the unknown that we all possess.

Christopher Trubridge, a seasoned skywatcher of many years, (who was at the beginning of the Warminster happenings), ran as fast as he could when confronted with the unknown. In his case, it was a tall dark figure which stood about 7 feet high. The panicked run resulted in a fractured ankle for Chris.

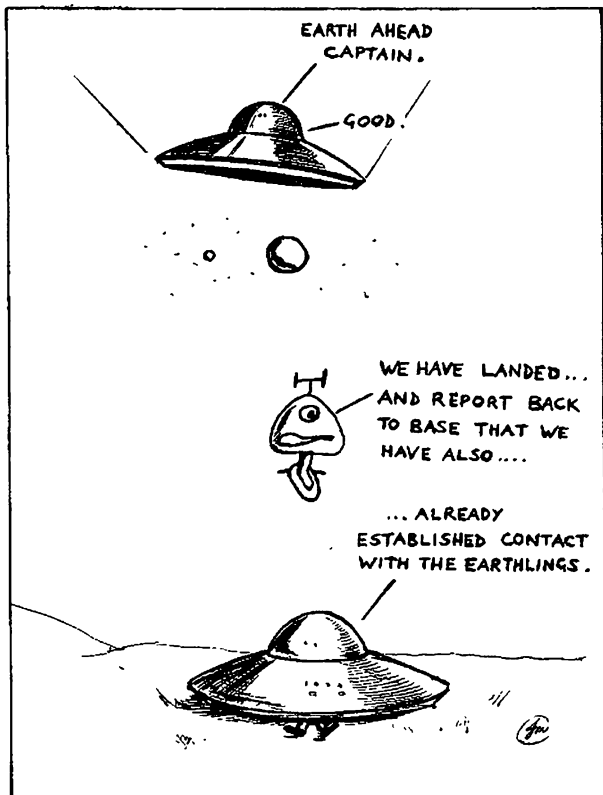
Now that was a person who had previously spent years watching for that very thing to happen: a contact with an extra-terrestrial entity. Perhaps the conditions weren't the desired ones to say the least.

Many books written by alleged contactees contain detailed accounts of their experiences, yet for them to convey exactly how they felt must be as difficult as explaining to a blind man the splendour and beauty of a rainbow.

It seems we will just have to wait for the day ourselves, if it is ever to arrive. Until then we will continue to read about other people's reactions.

(Comments on this are welcome).

I.M.



UFO SIGHTINGS

CLIPPINGS FROM THE PRESS.

LITTLE GREENLAND MEN. - Daily Express 26.2.80.

Invasion from space is imminent according to the people of Greenland. Teachers and children at the Sissimut Secondary School claim to have seen two UFOs hovering over the coast, apparently examining the area with bright spotlights. Other observers tell of oval space ships with brightly lit turret windows which disappeared, leaving behind fiery tails of light. Sightings in Greenland have been made by groups of up to 100 at a time, the latest at Assiait, where a "space ship" hovered over the town and changed to a blue cigar shape before flying off at incredible speed. Meteorologists have damped the UFO reports by blaming it all on the weather.

SKY'S THE LIMIT FOR UFO DISC. - News Of The World 4.5.80.

An amazing UFO sighting inspired Hot Chocolate's new single, "No Doubt About It". The song writers, Mike Burns and Steve Glen, spotted a low flying object as they drove through London one night. "It was surrounded by a halo of light, and they were so intrigued that they followed it around for the next 90 minutes", said lead singer Erroll Brown. "There was no obvious explanation for what they saw. It certainly wasn't a plane or anything like that. The whole incident made such an impression on Mike and Steve, that they went away and wrote the song. I have never seen a UFO but I certainly don't knock the idea of visitors from space. Thousands of people have seen things that can't easily be explained away".

DID UFO'S BUZZ PLANE? - Newsman Herald 4.12.79.

Two young Springfield women claim they saw an aeroplane being "buzzed" by mysterious UFOs on Thursday evening.

Carol Davison, of Waveney Drive, and her friend Gail Shepherd, of Upton Drive, witnessed the drama enacted overhead in front of Gail's house at about quarter to nine. They watched it through binoculars. They saw a luminous white object hovering in the sky along with four similar looking smaller ones. An aeroplane appeared, and immediately the biggest UFO made a beeline for it. It got so close that a head-on collision seemed imminent. Then suddenly a much smaller plane, came hurtling in at great speed, seemingly intent on intercepting the UFO. Then the UFO surrounded by the smaller craft flew off, with the plane in hot pursuit. A spokesman for Stanstead Airport denied any knowledge of the incident. On Tuesday evening, 16 year-old Great Baddow school boy Paul Spain, of Dorset Avenue, saw a bright red circular object in the sky to the North East of Chelmsford, and the following evening 12 year-old Michelle Bevans, of Gardeners, Gt. Baddow saw an identical object travelling through the clouds at great speed.

METEORITE SHOWERS - Ashton-under-lyne Reporter 4.1.80

People who have seen unusual flashes in the sky this week could have witnessed one of the annual meteorite showers known as quadrantids. A spokesman at Jodrell Bank said that meteorites could be visible in a clear sky anywhere in the Northern Hemisphere between January 1 and 6. He anticipated that best sightings will be for a maximum of ten hours today (Friday), particularly around midnight.

MYSTERIOUS PYRAMID FOUND IN THE BERMUDA TRIANGLE

Scientists have been baffled by a presence of a colossal pyramid more immense than any other known so far sitting on a other wise flat ocean bottom in the Bermuda Triangle. The mysterious structure submerged in 1,200 feet of water, rises steeply to the height of 780 feet.

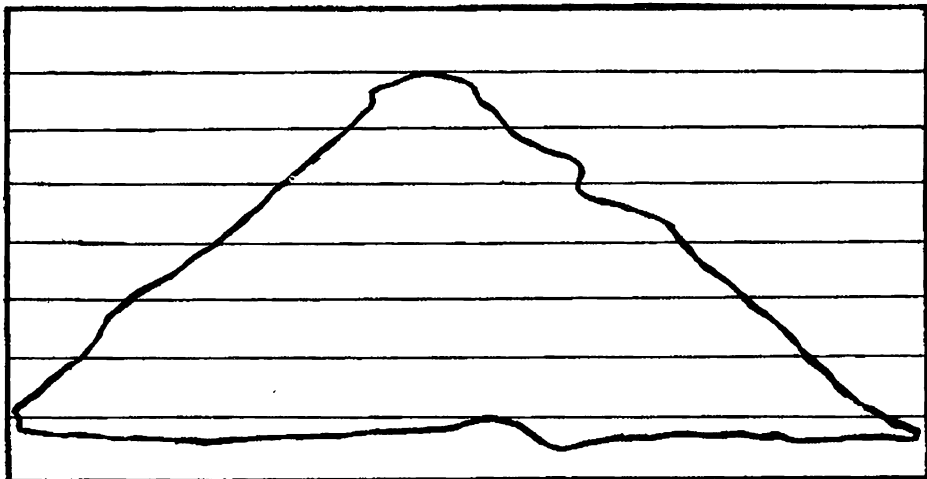
The astonishing discovery was made by Captain Don Henry using modern sonar equipment which traced out its shape and size. "It's massive! Its base measures 1000 feet on each side and it's even larger than the Great pyramid of Cheops (481 feet high) which is the largest we know of on earth".

Charles Berlitz, famed Bermuda Triangle investigator, who accompanied Captain Henry on a second sonar-tracing mission to the site, said the structure, was 50 miles off the South Florida coast, and is located in an area of the sea that is perfectly flat, an area that has no volcanic remains or sea mountains.

The pyramid is in an area directly in the Bermuda Triangle where a large number of ships and aircraft have mysteriously disappeared without trace. Berlitz said "Whether this strange under water pyramid is in some way a key to the mystery of the triangle or evidence of a long lost civilization or both, remains yet to be found out.

Dr. J. M. Valentine, world famous anthropologist and zoologist at the Miami, Florida Museum of Science and sonar expert J. M. Pirtle examined the sonar tracings and declared "This is highly unusual. The graph shows a massive symmetrical pyramid shaped object resting on a nearly flat ocean floor".

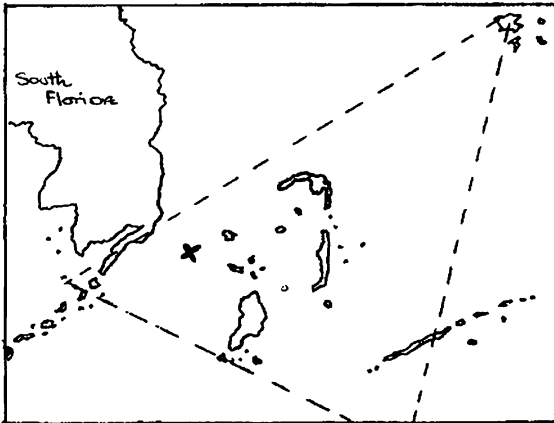
One of the typical sonar tracings obtained from Captain Don Henry which was examined by Dr. Valentine and J. M. Pirtle.



SONAR TRACING, reveals massive and symmetrical structure. Says author Charles Berlitz: "I believe we have found a pyramid where Atlantis may have existed!"

Dr. Valentine calculated the volume of the strange structure at about 9,600,000 cubic yards, more than twice that of the world's largest pyramid, the Great pyramid of Cheops, Egypt.

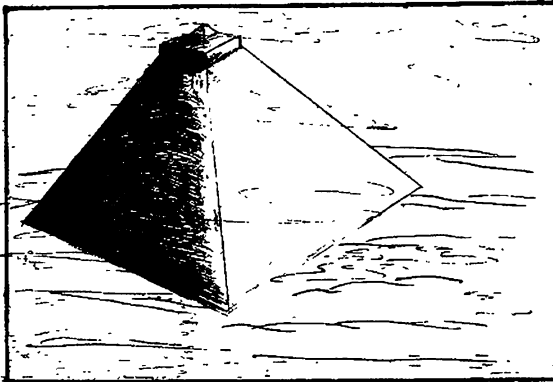
However, the sonar readings suggest that it is not as high as the tallest pyramid, the Quetzal Coatl near Mexico City.



X= Marks the position of the mysterious pyramid within the Bermuda Triangle. Positioned 50 miles off the South Florida coast.

Berlitz declared "I believe that what we have found is a pyramid where maybe Atlantis may have existed!"

Atlantis was an alleged continent which some believe disappeared into the ocean. The pyramid, he pointed out, stands on a part of the seabed that was once dry land. Could this be the key to finding secrets of a long lost civilization.



Berlitz said "I am now planning an expedition which we will use a submarine equipped with closed circuit T.V. cameras and various assortments of detecting equipment.

Artist's sketch of the mysterious pyramid.

(Information obtained from: The National Enquirer)

M.S.

These last few nights really have been perfect for skywatching, (May 10- 13th). May doesn't often produce such good conditions so I have been making the most of it and regularly visiting the Warminster hills. From the numbers of people up on Cradle Hill lately, I am not the only one taking advantage of the warm, clear evenings. This year hopefully, we shall see an increase in the numbers of skywatchers, as over the past few years regular watchers have slowly failed to turn up. Many faces became almost permanent fixtures as Saturday night packed in the crowds. Sadly, these people gradually drifted away and haven't been seen up there since. But this year looks to be the best for a long time. Although Warminster isn't as popular as it used to be (for skywatchers and UFOs alike), old familiar faces appear to be returning. It must be the current weather situation that's doing it, but as long as the people return, it's alright by me.

Besides meeting old regulars (as I call them), I always seem to come across the "New Faces" on the hills. Reading Arthur Shuttlewood's books seems to bring them to Warminster in the hope of seeing something. The chances these days of seeing a UFO are much slimmer than they used to be, but the reports from yesteryear hold a certain air about them. It seemed that you could almost bump into a flying saucer unless you looked where you were going. Warminster was labelled the "Mecca" for UFO sightings and it will never be forgotten. So despite the reduced chances of having a sighting, they still come in their small numbers. These newcomers to the hill are always noticed at once. They arrive sometimes fully equipped with expensive cameras, armed to the teeth with telephoto lens' and "rifle grips". In all my years of skywatching I've never seen anybody able to photograph a UFO, let alone take a picture myself. The lights in the sky that I have seen (which have defied any explanation to date), move far too swiftly to be snapped. To get one of these objects in the view-finder of any camera is extremely difficult because you are trying to adjust your eyes to focus on a small light contrasted against a black mass. Quite often the light in the sky (LITS), is not very bright and is practically invisible through the camera, and only really sensitive film, something like 400 ASA would capture the image if you were lucky.

But enough about the hopeful cameraman. Another type of newcomer to Warminster's hills is the one who "goes by the book", Arthur's book that is. At this time of year the evenings are getting lighter, so when these people arrive they can see the surrounding fields and scenery. They then talk amongst themselves and start pointing to depressions in the field made by some farming machinery, and attribute them to famous past accounts. Many marks in the fields were caused by UFO activity back in the mid-sixties but some people don't understand that the wheat and barley has since grown. There was no explanation for the strange markings that were a haunting reminder of the strange earthly and aerial activity that plagued Warminster fifteen years ago. This type of character will also relate famous landmarks (famous to Warminster), to old reports. "It says here that one flew over that copse on October 12th 1967".

These are just a few of the skywatching types that I have met on Cradle Hill over the past seven years, and there are many others that I may comment on whilst this column lasts.

NEXT ISSUE: "ROLLING DOWN CRADLE HILL IN A SLEEPING BAG WHILST FAST ASLEEP.....AND HOW I SET FIRE TO THE TRACK!"

"MORE UFO PUZZLERS"

Introduction: Starting with this issue we are featuring excerpts from Arthur Shuttlewood's next book which should be published late this year or early 1981. Arthur kindly sent us a selection of snippets for publication in Probe and for this we are very grateful.

Part 1

Since the day that we became questioners of the things around, above and below us, and discovered that those pin-pricks of light in the sky were in fact stars millions of miles away in a vast heaven, we have yearned to go there! For we, in common with questing civilizations before us, will never be entirely satisfied with our lot in life. Man, being the insatiably curious creature that he is, longs to get to the stars to set new adventures into exciting motion.

Here are a few recent UFO sightings that ruffle our grey matter a bit, causing us to stop and think in a madly materialistic world. Former RAF pilot Frank Chapman was at his home on the evening of 12 September 1977, entertaining a friend, John Hanley. Both espied a blue pulsating light in the sky flying SSE to NNW from the Ore Stone direction. It then stopped, hovered for a few seconds, only to reverse along its aerial path back to Torbay, Devon.

It reversed a second time and picked up speed to about 250 m.p.h. before shooting suddenly into space at a 55 degree angle, with no noise accompanying its flight. Mr. Chapman estimated its height as 5,000 feet, size three times that of a Lightning fighter plane. During its final acceleration, he thought, the object must surely have gone through a force of 10 G. He is certain it was intelligently controlled, the aeroform tear-shaped and as brilliant as 12 street lamps.

During his service, Mr. Chapman has flown Mosquitoes and Lightning fighters aircraft. After the experience of that September, he joked that if the pulsating airform belonged to any of HM Services, he would have no hesitation in paying his taxes to maintain our fighting strength! The sighting was also confirmed by Mr. O. Flaherty of Paignton, Mr. C. Gobe of Newton Abbott and a man from Bovey Tracy wishing to withhold his name because of feared notoriety. All of 4 Overway, Donhead, Shaftesbury, Mr. and Mrs. J. Gray and Mrs. Peach were sat at tea at 5.p.m. on 26th October 1977.

Looking from the window, Mr. Gray saw a skyform just above the tops of trees 250 yards away. He found it hard to credit that his eyes were functioning normally, so asked his wife and mother-in-law to confirm the strange 'thing' parading before his startled vision. All obvious answers like planes, kites, birds, were ruled out by the three. The UFO had the shape of 'a flattened rugby ball, seeming to shine as if reflecting light from its surface'. The sky was clouding over and beginning to darken.

The UFO slowly gliding across the heavens in the direction of Warminster, they attested. When nearly out of sight to their straining eyes, a cloud passed over it and it remained unseen from then on. They told my fellow-investigator Richard Blake that the aeroform was 'a bit smaller, to the eye, than the front wheel of your car'. In view for between 5-10 minutes, they could detect no noise, but stressed they watched from indoors so could not be sure whether it emitted any sound.

About a fortnight prior to this aerial rigger sphere, the Grays saw 'what resembled a flare falling from the sky; and it appeared as if it landed in the field in front of the houses'. While at 5.35 a.m. on 9 September 1977, Mr. Bruce of Cleethorpes was on his way to work as a baker. He spotted an early-morning 'sky stranger'. It flew from the fish docks area towards the local swimming pool in a northerly direction. Black in colour, its altitude 1,000 ft. It emitted no noise, when first seen was circular, but as it travelled the heavens its shape changed to oval. It kept to a steady course at the same height until vanishing over housetops. The sky was clear, no wind, and dawn was breaking.

Philip Justice, of Stoney Lane, Winchester, was walking his dog, Lucky, towards Bereweeks Avenue at 6.20 a.m. on 21 September 1977. The sky was clear save for a large thin cloud layer towards the town centre. He said: 'On looking up into the sky I watched a plane pass overhead, flying parallel to Stoney Lane. It entered the thin cloud and disappeared in an easterly direction. I then turned and, still gazing at the sky, saw another jet air liner heading toward the cloud from a north westerly angle.

'It was difficult for me to tell the liner's altitude, except to say it was the same as the cloud's height. Then I noticed a circular shining object with a diameter nearly half the length of the plane. This was travelling closely behind the jet and at the same speed. The plane and round object passed directly overhead and entered the cloud.

'The jet air liner passed on through it. But on entering the cloud, the brightly glittering object turned dark and suddenly vanished! I watched the cloud for a few minutes, but the strange object did not reappear or continue to follow the aircraft,' added Philip. What can we make, as rationalists and realists, of a report from Mr. C. Parret, of Homestead Farm, Four Marks? He was fishing with a group of friends two miles west of West Bay at Eyppe Mouth on 8 October the same year.

The wind was southerly with 50 per cent cloud cover when, between 8 and 8.30p.m. a light aircraft flew out to sea at some 1,000 feet. The fishermen then noticed a white-blue glow across the horizon, measuring about an inch wide, one and a half deep, at arm-length. The cloud layer had increased considerably by 11.30 p.m., the glow still clearly discerned for the remainder of the evening.

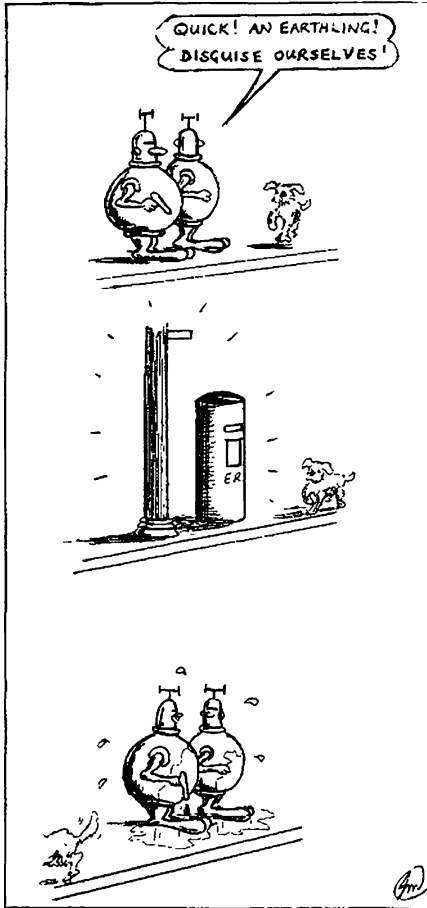
Mr. Parret also reports that a herd of cows in a certain field on his farm run around as if demented; and tells me that this occurs only at springtime. No explanation can be found for the crazed behaviour of these animals long before the fly-pestering nuisance of summer months. The meadow is almost an elongated triangle, with a high-voltage power grid passing through it, according to reporters at Winchester.

Its colour was brick red-brown, it evinced no visible sign of apertures or windows, no lights or radio aerials, no engine noises, and its assessed length was 25 ft. It was contained in a report by P. N. Cook of Abingdon, who told us in November: 'At about 7.30 p.m. a workmate called me on to the roof. He was very excited, yelled out, and pointed to what he called "an unusual thing". It was a pleasant evening but for a blustery wind, which had no effect on this thing we saw. Yet we had earlier watched light private aircraft being pushed around and truly buffeted by the wind!

'It remained in our sight for about a couple of minutes. Being on top of a high building, we had a longer look at it than normally from ground level. The best way to describe this UFO is to say that the front was similar to that of an old-fashioned bed-warming pan; and that the boom and tail assembly was similar to that of the famous US wartime fighter known as the P38 Lockheed Lightning. It was just cruising along, and was nothing like an ordinary balloon or aircraft, as I have long had a keen interest in these types of propulsion'.

One British astronomer claims that the 'home' of the UFOs constitutes the 'double' or 'twin' of our Earth; that it orbits on the far side of the sun and follows the same aerial path at similar rotational speed to our home planet; yet this supposition has been treated with some scepticism. But at least this disproved the allegation that SOME astronomers cannot think or see beyond the lenses of the telescopes mounted in their observatories, which invariably 'miss out' on spotting near-flying UFOs!

In February of 1978 I learned of an incident which was enacted 20 years ago, during the latter part of August, 1958. It was recounted to my friend Phyl Palmer of Swansea by Mr. L. L. Ferriday, who lives at 15 Humphrys Terrace, Caerau, Maesteg, S. Wales. He told a couple of pals of his experience at that time, but they simply laughed and refused to take him seriously; so he nursed it deep within him until unburdening it afresh in 1958. Phyllis Palmer told me: 'I heard because - with all the UFO activity in Wales recently - a man told my husband Fred about it at work. He obtained his phone number and I rang the gentleman last Sunday'. This is his story, told with solemn simplicity.



'I was up early one morning in late August 1958, and decided to take our dog for a ramble over the Cymmer mountains which are near my home at Caerau. It was not a very good day. A heavy mist hung over the valley and it was very clammy and uncomfortable. Still, I went out of the house and strode briskly across the fields before starting to climb up the mountainside. The dog was enjoying the romp to loosen his limbs. He was used to this sort of exercise, for I was a keen hunter in those days.

'As I reached the upper slope of the mountain, the mist had cleared and blue skies appeared, the sun shining brightly. I stopped to gaze at the glorious view. The valley was shrouded in a blanket of fine white mist: the only thing visible was the roof of the local hospital. As I gazed upward into the sunlit blue, I saw what looked like a sixpenny piece glittering brightly in the distance. I watched it, spellbound, and was amazed to see it travel in my direction, becoming larger as it did...so.

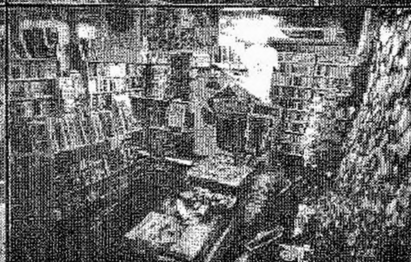
In no time at all it was above me and about 20 feet away from me. I was staggered at its proximity!

'It was a huge silver, circular object with a dome on top. It hovered noiselessly at some 40 feet in the air, then dropped to about 20 feet, still with the centre band rotating in a CLOCKWISE direction. I was flabbergasted and felt myself breathing more quickly! My dog did not move a muscle. We could only look at the gleaming craft and wonder ... Indeed, I thought that the Russians were going to land on that mountain! Heaven knows what the poor dog thought, but it remained silent and motionless.

Contd.....

Forever People

59, Park Street, Bristol. Tel 0272 25454.



S.F. Books

Fantasy

Marvel

D.C.

Warren

U/G comix

T. Shirts

Toys

Posters

Badges

S.A.E. for
Mailorder.



Contd.

'There was two crosses marked clearly on either side of the strange flying machine, and a number of peculiar symbols or signs which I could not make out, not having seen the like before. I stood there for about half an hour, rooted to the spot and fascinated. Yet thirty minutes have never passed by so swiftly! Eventually, I roused from my stupor and waved my hunting-stick in the air. As I did so I noticed that there were no windows to be seen, but that I must have been observed during that seemingly magic length of time which had been contracted. For the craft rose to about 40 feet again, still noiselessly and with the central band rotating; then with phenomenal speed it took off and vanished as if it had never existed!'

Arthur Shuttlewood.

SPHERE

BOOK REVIEW.

THE NEW SOVIET PSYCHIC DISCOVERIES. Henry Gris & William Dick.

The Soviet Union takes the subject of Parapsychology with a more serious approach than any other country, and the results of their developments are excellently detailed in this book. It examines many people with psychic abilities, and also sheds new light on the Tunguska explosion of 1908 and the legendary "missing planet" which is supposed to have existed with intelligent life long ago (until it was torn apart) beyond the orbit of Mars. Brilliantly researched by the two journalists, and very well presented.
Pagination: 448, Illustrated, Price £1.50.

THE FLYING SAUCERERS. Arthur Shuttlewood.

Another work from the experienced pen of the Warminster-based reporter. It examines eye-witness accounts of the local populace and ties in these reports with sightings from other parts of the UK and abroad. Theories of the "hollow Earth" are looked at in this book which also relates to 'Bible' sightings. Illustrated with photographs from the Warminster area.
Pagination: 160+ Illustrated, Price 95p.

UFO MAGIC IN MOTION. Arthur Shuttlewood.

The sixth and latest book from Mr. Shuttlewood. More Warminster UFO sightings examined in detail presented with reports from other areas of the UK, pieced together in a book which looks at ancient folklore and legends of the Wiltshire town, and investigates world-shattering events such as the slowing down of our Earth. A necessary addition to the book collection.
Pagination: 256, Price £1.10.

Title: THE HYNEK UFO REPORT

Author: Dr J Allen Hynek

* Author worked for 20 years on the US Air Force's research into UFOs, "Project Blue Book". In his own book he analyses the files of the Project and establishes the need for more serious scientific study

* Founder and Director of the Centre for UFO Studies

* Technical adviser on the film *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*

Title: SITUATION RED: THE UFO SIEGE

Author: Leonard Stringfield Pagination: 240 +

* Delves into the astounding facts surrounding the big UFO scare of '73

Title: MESSENGERS FROM THE STARS

Author: W Raymond Drake Pagination: 240

Author's Address: Roker, Sunderland

* A fascinating analysis of the myriad legends of Earth's antiquity, showing how these legends can reveal evidence of teachers from outer space

Title: MY CONTACT WITH UFOs

Author: Dino Kraspedon Pagination: 208

* Records detailed accounts of conversations that took place with sentient beings from space, with descriptions of how UFOs are powered and motivated

Title: STRANGE CREATURES FROM TIME AND SPACE

Author: John A Keel Pagination: 304

Author's Address: Woodstock, N Y State, USA

* A frightening study of the bizarre and the unexplained. It does not aim to make you believe or disbelieve — merely to make you aware of what is happening

Title: UFO TREK

Author: Warren Smith Pagination: 192

* Flying Saucers — elaborate hoax or astounding reality?

UFO SIGHTINGS

CLIPPINGS FROM THE PRESS.

UFOS OVER THE SEVERN BRIDGE - The Citizen 18.1.80

Gloucestershire Police have received reports of strange objects hovering in the sky over the Severn Bridge. One observer described them as three round objects with multi-coloured flashing light, and other as a large cylindrical object also with flashing lights. The three round objects were said to be in a triangular formation, much resembling the pattern of UFOs seen in the Woolaston and Alvington area a few weeks ago. They were visible over the bridge for nearly an hour. A spokesman for the RAF said that as far as he was aware, there was no aerial activity to account for the sightings.

POLICE SEE MYSTERY IN THE SKY - Evening Standard 29.11.79

Two police officers thought they were seeing things when a cigar-shaped object appeared in the sky this morning. Their sighting, near Rickmansworth, was confirmed a few hours later when two other policemen saw the same thing near Chorley Wood. The brightly-lit object hovered in the sky for several minutes before moving off towards Oxhey. "There were lights surrounding it and lights coming from underneath", said the officers. PC Morecroft and WPC Brown reported the sighting and the RAF at West Drayton were informed. But nothing showed up on the radar and the mystery remains. A police spokesman said: "West Drayton confirmed that nothing showed up on at that time of the morning. They would like to get as much information as possible. "The police officers say the object was hovering about 400 feet up. There were bright lights coming from the bottom of it."

MYSTERY UFO TURNS NIGHT INTO DAY - South Yorkshire & Rotherham Advertiser: 11.3.80

A strange bright light turned night into day as a mysterious object fell to earth near Maltby in the early hours of yesterday morning. The blazing unidentified flying object sent radios haywire and 'phones at local police stations were hot with people ringing in asking about the sighting. The ball of fire exploded in a brilliant white flash, leaving a puzzle as to what the object actually was. Inspector Tony Hopkinson, of Maltby Police, told The Advertiser: "The whole sky lit up like broad daylight and one of my officers said he saw something falling to the ground. "He was in the Firbeck area and he thought it was quite close to him. Other officers out on patrol also saw it". He added that the falling object affected police VHF radios, and that it was thought to have plunged to earth between Maltby and Rossington. An eye witness, Angela Stobbs, of Sheffield University, said: "I saw what looked like a small ball of fire falling down. The next second it exploded in a brilliant white flash of light. "There was no noise and it was very startling". Astronomers believe that the object, which came down about 1 a.m., could be a meteor or space debris, according to Dr. David Hughes, of Sheffield University's Physics Department. He quizzed Ms. Stobbs about her sighting, and her description tallied with these theories. The Royal Air Force at Finningley are looking into the incident, and a South Yorkshire Police spokesman said that both they and West Yorkshire Police had received many reports from the public of the sighting. It was also revealed that on New Year's Day two years ago Maltby officers chased an object emitting a bright white light from Maltby towards Blyth.

by Keith Knight.

During the early part of April, many sightings were reported in the West Midland area. Mr Ian Hawker of Willowsca Road, Bevere, Worcester was returning home from the South of England through Broadway when he suddenly looked up and saw a bright light in the sky. It was like a large bright ball with a long stem which appeared on the horizon. He told the Worcester Evening News that the strange thing about it was that his girlfriend saw it at exactly the same time. "We were both left with a very eerie feeling" said Mr Hawker, "I kept driving for a while then stopped. The funny thing was that there were other people around at the time. One man was running as if he didnt have a moment to live". Mr Hawker related his experience to the Worcester Evening News to see if anyone else had reported the UFO, but the Police at Broadway say they have had no reports of the sighting. However, the West Mercia Police had four seperate sightings reported to them on the 9th April, between midnight and 1 a.m. And one of those reports came from Police Officers on night duty. A police spokesman said that duty officers had first thought the reports could be of a plane crash. But London air traffic control and all local air fields said they had no knowledge of any civilian or military aircraft in trouble over the county. The air traffic experts in London said that they had received similar reports of UFO's covering an area from Yorkshire to South Wales. The evening television news programme "ATV Today" confirmed this by interviewing three witnesses. The first said he saw a white stationary object behind a hedge. The second saw an orange glow travelling over the horizon and the third witness described what he saw as a row of flashbulbs going off one after another. Due to the varied descriptions given in these three reports, it would seem likely that they may not be connected. A Nottingham ufologist also interviewed on the programme reminded us that a few hours earlier the Russians had launched two men into space, and what the witnesses may have seen, could have been space debris re-entering the Earths atmosphere, and burning up on entry.

Back in Worcester, a police spokesman said that at the moment West Mercia had no rational explanation for the recent wave of sightings but investigations were continuing. Skyscan also promised to investigate the reports but their spokesman Mr Tony Green said "When such a large number of sightings are reported from such a wide area, the explanation for what people saw is usually quite mundane".

Edgbaston Observatory could offer no reason why weather conditions could have produced the phenomenon. But one of the reports received by the police was described as a "ball of light with a meteorite type tail". This report came from Mr Chris Mowbray of Crowle, Worcester. Mr Mowbray was driving home from a friends house after midnight and told the police "I thought the light was greenish in colour but that may have been because I saw it through the top of a hawthorne hedge". "One of my friends also saw it but described it as the colour of fire". The Ministry Of Defence later, actually explained away the sightings as meteorites. In a statement to the Worcester Evening News on 11th April, they said that the lights seen in the night sky were caused by two showers of falling meteorites burning up as they entered the atmosphere. Those interested in astronomy will know that major meteorite showers are not normally expected at this time. Viewed from the U.K. no major meteorite showers are expected between the end of the Quadrantids, 6th January, and the start of the April Lyrids, 19th April. Although minor showers can be observed at almost any time given the right conditions. Anyone skywatching during the first two weeks of April will have observed the unusual amount of meteorite activity. So the Ministry Of Defence's explanation could well be the correct identification for at least some of the April sightings.

ADDENDUM: PAGE 2 "MAGPIE" SHOULD READ "BLUE PETER".

