

THE PROBE REPORT

JOURNAL OF UFO INVESTIGATION



SPOTLIGHT ON 'PROJECT IDENTIFICATION'

THE PROBE REPORT

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF PROBE UFO INVESTIGATION ORGANISATION

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THE PROBE REPORT is published as an extension to the investigatory work carried out by the PROBE team. It is seen as a means to publish the results of intensive investigations undertaken in the Westcountry and also for the publishing of work carried out by organisations elsewhere in the UK. Research papers from all countries are invited for publication.

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THE PROBE REPORT

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It is not without a great feeling of sorrow and regret that I have to announce the imminent closure of PROBE REPORT. For some time now, the writing has been on the wall, and there have been one or two editorial comments from myself remarking on the poor situation. Whether or not some people out there dismissed these comments as nothing more than pessimistic nonsense, or merely just there to elicit sympathy and donation, I am not sure. The comments were genuine unfortunately, and we have reached the situation where PROBE REPORT can no longer independently operate within specified costs limits. Funding from my colleagues, wife and myself have kept it alive, plus also the involvement of BUFORA in supplying this journal to its members. However, the personal funding reached a level that was unacceptable to those concerned. We also pledged never to borrow money from other UFO groups, as we had done before. It seemed unjustifiable to contribute to a journal that some people just did not wish to support.

I myself must take the blame for the lack of support and subscribers, for the direction in which I took TPR angered many people over the years. From the second volume onward, TPR took a very sceptical stance, yet still published UFO reports where there truly seemed no rational explanation. The editorials were often scathing and attacked slack investigation and uncritical UFO theorising. The 'New Age' also came in for a battering, so did many other groups and schemes which those groups undertook. It is no surprise that TPR won many enemies. That is the penalty for speaking one's mind, and not being too diplomatic about it.

Nevertheless I still stand by my stance, as it earned TPR a reputation of being a sensible, useful UFO journal, which over the past year or two has contained many new theories and speculations by those in the best positions to say so. Perhaps this stance was financially suicidal, as we steered clear of sensation-grabbing stuff and stuck to the track where few people in ufology wish to tread. This is not an effort to place TPR above anyone else, or on a pedestal, but it is true that ufology has suffered its cranks and romantics, and will always do so.

Being rational doesn't sell magazines and books, particularly in this field, as those who wish to be entertained by UFO stories and tales of the mysterious want just that. We could not, and would not offer that without being sceptical when necessary, and that kills the interest dead. Maybe it was a brave direction to follow, or maybe it was a direction that the public awareness of UFOs is not ready for. Whatever it was, it was a direction that PROBE as a team believed in and still do.

With the October issue, Volume 4, Number 2, so ends the PROBE REPORT era. It has been fun, and many thanks to those out there reading this journal who supported us in the past.

However, there is usually some good news when there is bad,

There will be a meeting of BUFORA's Accredited Investigators at the third International Congress. This will take place on the Sunday night (28th August), although exact details will be known at the Congress itself.

CONTACT (UK) (Hmm... they should be prosecuted under the Trade Descriptions Act - have you ever received a reply from them?), have improved the production quality of AWARENESS, their official journal. It seems from the ads page that BUFORA are staging the longest ever UFO Congress - from 2nd to 27th August. Come on Contact, pull your finger out! (At 50p per line, I'd demand a refund!) For those of you who still don't know, it should read 27th to 29th August 1983.

CENAP, that excellent West German UFO group have just produced a massive publication, 150 pages in all, called PROJECT UFO 2. It is in German unfortunately, but it does contain translations from articles that appeared in

and this applies mainly to the BUFORA members who might now be worried about not receiving value for money. I will be editing for BUFORA a new journal entitled The BUFORA PROBE, which in essence is The PROBE REPORT under a different name and publisher. The format will be the same, and the content will be of the same standard. But of course this always depends on what is available. BUFORA members will receive the first issue of The BUFORA PROBE in January 1984 (well, at least I shall be publishing it around that time) - and there is good news for the loyal subscribers to The PROBE REPORT. From January 1984, all subscribers who have journals owed to them will be receiving copies of The BUFORA PROBE, until those subscriptions expire. Because BUFORA are the publishers however, you will not be able to receive further issues unless a BUFORA membership is taken out. The annual fee is £12.50 and for this you will receive four BUFORA PROBE's, four BUFORA BULLETINS and two J-MAPS. So to renew a subscription to BUFORA PROBE will necessitate joining BUFORA. For full details, write to BUFORA, 30 Vermont Road, London. SE19 3ER.

EXCHANGE JOURNALS - IMPORTANT

Through kind agreement with the BUFORA council, groups and societies who currently exchange their magazines with TPR will be able to receive the new BUFORA PROBE if exchange journals continue to be sent to the editorial address (British groups) and to Terry Chivers' address for international groups. Please note that by sending any journals to the normal BUFORA offices will not be sufficient to receive the BUFORA PROBE. This is being dealt with independently of BUFORA's normal exchange arrangements. Exchange journals MUST be sent to either the editorial address (for British exchanges) or to Terry Chivers' address for international exchanges. It basically means that current exchanges may continue as before without any alteration. To receive other BUFORA publications, please continue to send journals to the editor of the BUFORA BULLETIN.

Your editor has to apologise on one hand for presenting such small type, but the amount of relevant material that was received during the last quarter demanded that 40 pages of type be printed on 20 pages of paper. On the other hand, you are getting twice as much reading material compared to what used to be put out not too long ago. Still, I suspect things will revert back to normal (a midway position) with the next issue.

PLEASE NOTE that PROBE will no longer be existing after October 1983, as the group will officially dissolve as an active group with the closure of The PROBE REPORT. That means that we are NOT accepting any subscriptions. BUT... we are accepting crisp orders for the final issue. Anyone whose subscription expires with this issue and would like to receive the final issue ever printed, (a real collector's item) need only send in £1, and this will cover all the costs. But only if your subscription expires with this issue. Everyone else will receive the final issue automatically.

PROBE REPORT on various occasions. In fact, PROBE have a fair-sized chunk allocated to us, including cases that were conducted by SCUFORI. They even printed the Man-In-Black story. PROJECT UFO-2 also contains features from several other countries and is well presented. For details, write to Werner Walter, Eisenacher Weg 16, 6800 Mannheim 31, West Germany.

A BUFORA Accredited Investigator is interested in forming his own local group or team. His letter to PROBE REPORT reads: 'Accredited investigator in the Brigwater area would be most interested in hearing from persons from that area who would like to set up an objective, rationally-based UFO group. Persons sceptical of UFOs and/or with qualifications relevant to UFO investigation preferred. For further information please contact Robert S. Moore, 83 Church Road, East Huntspill, Highbridge, Somerset. TA9 3NG.'

Letters to the Editor



Correspondence in response to the various topics covered in Volume 3 Number 4 far outweighed anything that has ever been received before. Fortunately, due to the reduced size of type in this particular issue, most of the interesting letters can be printed. The visit to Rendlesham Forest by SCUFORI, and their subsequent report of their findings, caused quite a stir among many people, each offering their own point of view. Read on...

Dear Editor,
Thanks for another good issue of PROBE REPORT, (I do not refer to my own articles). SCUFORI have done a good job at Rendlesham, and have shown that reports of a crashed UFO are probably apocryphal and not worth further enquiry. For that we are all obliged. They have also shown the inadequacy of EUPORA's resources in Suffolk. SCUFORI attributed the lack of flora in the felled area to the felling process itself. However, nothing grows under a dense pine forest, and the lack of flora is certainly due to this cause. Growth only begins after felling, when full daylight returns. It seems likely that the area had held a copse of mature trees (older than the surrounding forest), and the increasing growth of flora towards the edge would be due to the increase in daylight towards the edge of the copse.

Jenny Hantles' praise of Mark Brown (in the Brookworth case) seems unjustified. He did not find a rational answer, nor did he find corroboration of the story. Although he did not find out what happened to the Barnfield family, he nevertheless came to the conclusion that there had been no 'abduction'! I would have liked to know why the car's engine did not fail, what sort of engine was it and how far was it from the UFO. Why was there no plan of the farm? Why had Mr Price not gone to the farmhouse to search for the occupants and the dog, either that day or on subsequent days? I do not expect Brown to have seen that the object could have been ball lightning (and not solid at all), but I do expect him to have noted my natural theory and how it predicts such objects.

Yours faithfully,
STUART CAMPBELL,
Edinburgh.

(Regarding the lack of maps in Jenny's article, I stand guilty as charged. Jenny provided a map of the farm detailing all of the buildings, and also another map of Brookworth in relation to Gloucester and Cheltenham. Unfortunately, I had no room to publish them, so you can find them at the end of the letters. Ed)

Dear Ian,
The article Rendlesham Revisited in last issue was most welcome and raised some interesting points. I am very grateful to the SCUFORI team for making such careful efforts to examine the story. They have assisted the pursuit of truth, and appear to be the only British investigators (outside Brenda Butler and Dot Street) prepared to actually try and find out what did (or did not) happen. Considering the potential importance of this case, plus my frequent efforts as EUPORA's Director of Investigation to get a reasonable close southern investigator to take an interest, this is surprising. Although the out-of-the-way location is no doubt a major factor. Brenda and Dot, I am certain, have applied their skills to this case to the best of their ability. They have also dealt with it fairly and honestly. But it is probably true that they were 'too close to it' to be able to see the Rendlesham woods for the Rendlesham trees! Hence the need for an objective overview which, to a point (but, as SCUFORI self-admit, only to a point) has now been given.

I first heard the 'rumour' via Paul Begg and his radar contact. This side of the story offered something (although not much) before Brenda and Dot's expeditions became known and was, so far as I can see, quite independent. As, so it seems, was the tale supplied (via Lucius Parish from the USA) to Norman Oliver. So we cannot ascribe the formulation of the rumour directly to Brenda or Dot. If they are indeed being 'taken in' by their contacts, then they are merely reflecting a larger collection of false stories. It was this apparent combination of accounts; which only I was in the position to see flowing together like tributary streams (being a focal point position for their collation) that has given me an interest in the case from the start which is possibly out of character from my previous UFO involvements and certainly out of proportion to my ability to do anything about it. Of course, even at this first stage, the case (if there be one) was already two months old. Which was a difficulty straight away.

My concern in writing the summary piece I produced in the January 1982 NUFON publication was simple. There had been scattered notes published by Brenda and Dot and distributed somewhat haphazardly. These were highly confused and it seemed they were still unaware of the radar aspect of the case. So I talked to them and tried to clarify the meaning of their writings; added the radar anecdote, and basically just wrote a concise (and hopefully accurate) account of what was being claimed. In no sense was this an 'investigation' on my part, as I have never been to Suffolk nor have I spoken to any of the witnesses, or alleged witnesses. Another fundamental reason for writing this (one year into the affair) was to try to interest somebody to do something about it; Brenda and Dot often having specifically asked me to 'send someone in' to give them assistance. They themselves knew the problems they were facing and their lack of experience. The PSR piece, incidentally, was simply a reprint of this NUFON article. I never wrote anything specifically for PSR. Nor did I really intend to, although readers were owed it after my preliminary note about the rumour in an earlier issue. The UNEXPLAINED article came because I was asked to do it and I could see no obvious reason why I shouldn't. Especially as if I didn't, then someone (who was probably less acquainted with the case) almost certainly would have done. The articles had the desired effect; with the SCUFORI field-trip and the discussion solicitor Harry Harris had (albeit by somewhat dubious means) with Brenda's principle contact at the air-base. Said officer confirmed the account given to Brenda. It appears, but then made himself invisible during all the subsequent attempts by Harris to get back to him. The articles also provoked widespread American interest, with offers to all involved of substantial financial sums to name names. I took calls from TV stations and journals in Florida, Los Angeles and New York. Brenda and Dot had even had more. Needless to say, all these offers were rejected out of hand. But some service was provided by these US contacts. That includes the tracking down of one individual, named by Brenda's contact as being involved but now back in the States. This person claimed that two people of the same name were on the base at the time and he was the wrong one. The journalist appeared not to believe that. More recently (February 1983) thanks to the publicity of the case in OWNI, a now retired officer living in the USA has apparently come forward and confirmed the story. Checks indicate he was on the Woodbridge base at the time I believe.

Naturally all of this could be a social rumour leaping out of control with various folk jumping onto the glory wagon. However, superficially it still seems to me that a primary event is indicated, with the exaggerations

arriving afterwards as icing on the cake. Quite what that cake is remains a very different matter. Was it a military incident which is being covered? Was the UFO story conjured up to deflect interest from the truth; but leaked by the back door (rather than to the media) for an obvious reason? If a newspaper prints a story people might listen. If ufologists waffle on about pickled-green-men and crashed UFOs it is just another example of our paranoia. However, such a scenario might be risky because UFOs are inherently interesting. The story 'it was a plane crash' would have been long forgotten. The tale 'it was an alien contact' will inevitably live on. Or did the rumour circulate round the base and become accepted there as truth before being leaked? Quite frankly there are problems wherever you look. I will make no comment on SCUFORI's findings of the subsidiary 'events'. It must be up to the investigators to answer these. However, I do dispute the 'what does it matter' conclusion. For it must matter. Truth always does. Of course, whether in a military situation such as this we can ever hope to arrive at the truth (especially two and a half years on) must be in some doubt. Still, I believe there are indications enough that a case remains to be answered; and whilst we still have the resources and the folk willing to try I see no harm in giving it a go. As for the men-in-black not being in black, I submit that SCUFORI's MIB in the previous issue's report did not always wear black either! MIB is an accepted term, surely, for the alleged strangers.

Yours sincerely,
 JENNY RANDLES,
 Hallasey,
 Wirral.

Dear Sir,
 I am one of the investigators on the Rendlesham Forest case, and half of what you have printed is untrue and I would like to put it right. I don't know where the SCUFORI team got their information from, but I will go through it from the start:

1. Landing site. The UFO did not land where these four investigators went. I cannot understand why Dot Street took them there as Dot knows where it landed (supposedly). The witness showed us where the landing site was, and it certainly was not at the place in the photographs. Dot says the forestry man told her where the site was on the map - the map I saw was covered in little green trees and you could not tell one place from another.
2. Men-in-Black. Where Jenny Randles got the 'Men-in-Black' theory from I do not know, as the farmer whom we visited in the first place said he could not remember who came or what they were dressed in.
3. Animal disturbances. No comment.
4. Effects on the car. I do not have a rev-counter in my car so Dot could not have seen one. My car is not old and shaky - old maybe, but definitely not shaky. It has not failed an MOT test yet. The SCUFORI team are welcome to come down and drive my car. It will do speeds of up to 85 mph without shaking. My dog does not have a heart condition as SCUFORI say. This they can check out with my vet if they wish.

Conclusion. My witness asked me to keep quiet about the UFO on behalf of him. This I did for five weeks. But I had permission to use this information if I also got it from someone else. After I was told the same story from a forestry worker whom I know, I released the story. So I did not betray my confidence to my witness. As for being an amateur UFO investigator, I have been investigating UFOs since 1967, also ghosts and Ley Lines, and have worked for newspapers and magazines in the USA. I have, I reckon, more files on UFOs than a full-time UFO investigator. If the SCUFORI team had asked more questions when they were down here, they would have realized I take my work very seriously and write my reports as they happen with no lies or false statements.

The witness whom I have known for five years knew I was interested and investigated UFOs, this is why he told me about it. He knew I would not release this information without other evidence coming forward. He also knew I would never release his name (that's friendship for you). You forgot to mention the story has also been in several

magazines in the States, with a follow-up report confirming the landing. I do not know what happened that night; I was not there. I only know something did happen. All the evidence and cover-ups prove that. Myself, I keep an open mind. Maybe in your next PROBE REPORT you can put this story right - with the truth!

Please show the SCUFORI team this letter and ask them where they got their information from. It will be most interesting to find out if they added bits to it also. Everyone else seems to have done so. I have enclosed a cheque for the next two issues of PROBE REPORT, to see if you have the decency to print the truth.

Yours faithfully,
 BRENDA BUTLER,
 Leiston,
 Suffolk.

(At your service. Your letter was passed to SCUFORI and their response is printed below. Ed)

Dear Editor,
 In response to Brenda Butler's I would like to say that the Rendlesham Revisited article gives an accurate account of what SCUFORI found while carrying out their research during the three-day visit. It also relays SCUFORI's opinions on those discoveries. However, we are not in the game of making rash decisions based on unresponsive evidence. Looking back, nearly nine months after our investigations, we are still not happy with the events surrounding the case. It would be interesting if another unbiased independent investigation was undertaken to see what their findings would be. Yet, as the event occurred so long ago, such an investigation would be very difficult indeed, and both time consuming and expensive. So we are left with our opinions and those of Brenda Butler and Dot Street. We are also left with a great deal of unanswered questions; questions which should have been asked and answered a long time ago. I feel that our task was quite a difficult and strenuous one, working extremely late and long hours. Although we were looking for answers, we were also trying to find the truth. It was not our intention to 'knock' the investigations of the two resident investigators or act as debunkers with this case. We hoped that during those few days we could have worked hand-in-hand, with our investigation experience complimenting Dot and Brenda's knowledge of the case. This worked on several occasions, but I personally believe that Brenda was somewhat hostile towards us, resenting our presence. I feel she was unhappy about SCUFORI 'intruding' on to her case.

With regards to the individual investigations into specific areas of the event, we have the following comments to make:

1. Landing site. I fail to see how, from the photographs published in Vol 3, No 4 of the PROBE REPORT, you are able to work out where we were standing in the wood. I have checked our position, which I marked on an Ordnance Survey map whilst on site, with that printed on the map in the UNEXPLAINED (106) and the locations appear to be identical. If Dot did take us to the wrong location, then surely you cannot hold that against us as we were entirely in her hands. It is interesting to note that, while at the location, Dot knew exactly where the airbase was positioned in relation to it. This seems to indicate that she had visited the spot previously. The area Dot showed us was assumed by us to be the correct one and therefore our research was based on that. What we wrote for the PROBE REPORT was exactly what we had found.
2. Men-in-Black. We entirely agree with Brenda on this point. Interviewing the farmer we could find no evidence that he had received such visitors. The only people who had discussed the matter with him were Dot and her gentleman friend. It would be very interesting to know exactly where Jenny obtained this information from. (See end of Jenny's letter - Ed)
4. Effects on the car. As an error on our part, we stated that Brenda's car had a rev-counter. I have personally written to her to apologise for this mistake.

It is, however, still likely that Dot, from her position, misread the speedometer. Especially, as a non-driver, she is not used to reading such instruments or gauging speeds. In addition to this, moving along that lane at such a speed I think it is highly likely that Brenda or Dot had little time to worry about the car's speed, and that the 60-70 mph claim was merely a guess. Brenda's car is old, and under the conditions it had to endure along that lane, it is no wonder it vibrated. I experienced considerable shaking as I drove down the lane. It may well be the case that Brenda's car can attain speeds of 85 mph, but I do not believe that she was able to travel along that lane, in the poor state it was, at the speeds claimed. As stated in the PROBE REPORT, I found it extremely difficult and dangerous trying to maintain a speed of 40 mph. I am certain that at several of the bends in the lane, a car travelling at 60-70 mph would have probably left the road. I can say no more on this matter, only that I feel in the excitement, they were under the impression that they were travelling far faster than they really were. The dog's health was mentioned in our short interview with Brenda, and although we never asked her outright whether it did have a heart condition, I can think of no time when she actually denied this. This is despite the fact that 2 versions of the events (containing the dog's condition) had already appeared in *FSR* and *NUPON Case Studies*. Moving onto Brenda's conclusions, the actions of her contacts seemed very strange. If the incident was meant to be top secret, the probability of Brenda hearing from two independent witnesses appears remarkable indeed. Especially as the only reason she was allowed to release the first witness' account was if she heard the story elsewhere. My comment of Brenda being an amateur UFO investigator is entirely true. I am an amateur, so is the editor of this publication, as we receive no payment for our services in ufology. Amateur does not imply incompetence, but simply that the work is conducted on a non-professional basis.

To sum up our investigations, I can only say that we were sure of our findings, otherwise we would not have printed them. We are not in the habit of telling lies or 'adding bits' as we have nothing to gain by it. On the other hand, we would have everything to lose, if it were determined that we had falsified the contents of the report. All SCUPORI have gone is brought in an outsider's opinion of several aspects of the event.

Yours sincerely,
MARTIN SHIPP,
SCUPORI,
Swindon.

Dear Editor,
Jenny Randles' perceptive comment "There is something 'damned funny' going on in the world" (PROBE REPORT, Vol 3, No 4) is much to the point; but is she right in her assumption that the "bell-like UFO" cannot be explained? I provisionally accept the good faith of the witness, the anonymous 'Mr Price', but what does "this is completely true" mean anyway? The present case is of particular interest both in spite and because of its age, but it hardly qualifies as a strong one. Spontaneous cases do not, like vintage wine, mature in the course of time. What makes it so outstanding, in the investigator's opinion, is presumably that people did not "know" about UFOs "in them there days". At any rate, very few were reported. However, if M&B (1) is right that the material of the syndrome is basically derived from early SF writing, it becomes less amazing that such things were occasionally "seen" more remotely in time. The present case is not only old but lacking in contemporary documentation; in fact, it is wholly dependent on ancient and possibly distorted memories of an old man. The precise data is not recalled, but could be plausibly reconstructed. By now, the witness has placed his experience "in context with UFOs", enabling him to envisage the wholesale abduction of the farmhands, animals and all! With apparent encouragement of the investigator he has become a true believer in Nuts & Bolts. While it is not quite clear why corroborative testimony is "not necessary", one cannot but agree that no "natural" solution in terms of helicopters or balloons

is viable. What hypotheses are there to be considered? A spacecraft from whatever source? The article espouses this idea, at least implicitly, with its talk of a possibly mechanical craft; a "material" UFO that is "physical" and once more "material"; an object, moreover, directed by "an intelligence". (I apologise for not giving page references, but PROBE is unpaginated.) In short, the whole mythology of the pulp-writers of the 60's is resurrected: UFOs are, as "everybody" knows (and never mind if there is no hard evidence) *ex hypothesi* material, physical objects: mechanical spacecraft intelligently directed. And let me repeat: there is no valid reason to accept the Price sighting as that of an object of any kind, let alone of a craft: there were no physical traces even to suggest it. The percipient, according to his account, passes the farm which, contrary to expectation, is deserted. Not a soul is astir. Strong sensation of déjà vu! The desolate scene, the total absence of human (or animal) activity so inconsistent with the usual bustle of the farmyard. There is a strange and all-pervading hum: Mr Price's scenario is of a phantasm-world(sic) induced by a trance-like state of altered consciousness, in which he is startled and ultimately terrified by the unfamiliar sight of a UFO. There is, predictably, no traffic, the whole scene being bathed in a "pale green curtain of light". The "greenish" glow disperses as the frightened percipient departs precipitately; whereupon everything returns to normal. There are no witnesses, and newspaper reports confirmatory of an objective experience cannot be traced.

While the sparsity of data forbids a precise reconstruction of the experience, the psychological mechanism can be gauged by attention to certain features of the scenario notably the apparent blocking-out of salient scenic aspects. Similarly, when Miss Moberly and Miss Jourdain walked through Antoine Richard's enchanted garden at Versailles (as described by them in *An Adventure*), the chief features of their experience, apart from a strong sensation of unease, "were the impressions of exceptional loneliness, and the extreme silence (ie, the blockage of sense-impressions) of the place" (p 39). We have, alas, no contemporary account by Mr Price for close, point by point comparison of his sensations other than fear, but it is likely that he, like the two ladies, was deeply hallucinated for a time. It is curious to note that objects, or at any rate an object, took on a green cast in the Petit Trianon case (2).

Jenny Randles and her investigator are to be congratulated on having unearthed an illuminating account of great psychological interest, but whether or not it lends itself to the support of the objective existence of a "specific UFO type" is another, and more controversial matter. Temporary hallucination on the part of the percipient is a more economical hypothesis than objective cognizance of a craft of strange properties.

- Notes: (1) M&B, *Science-Fiction et Soucoupes Volantes*. Mercure de France 1978.
(2) G.W.Lambert in *Journal of the Society for Psychical Research*, Vol 37, No 676. 1953 p.135.

MANFRED CASSIRER
London.

(Regarding the lack of pagination in the last issue; it was all my fault, yet I did ask the printer to add the numbers in for me. He also forgot. Incidentally, there is no such journal as PROBE - not in this part of the world anyway. It is called PROBE REPORT. It would be nice to get that sorted out before we close up shop. However, your letter was passed on to Jenny Randles, and she responds as follows. Ed)

Dear Sir,
In respect of Manfred Cassirer's critique of the 1939 'bell like UFO' case, I would suggest that he has somewhat missed the point. Ufologists today do have a tendency towards exotic psychological theories. And I

say this in recognition that I am one. We may not think our ideas are exotic, but they are; just as much as the ETH for example. The intent of my comments in the case report were simply to allow me to hesitate, as I feel we all should do every once in a while. Is it really more "economical" to propose as a solution a hallucinatory mechanism prevalent throughout history that generates reproductive visions, than it is to presume that the 'craft' allegedly seen truly was seen? It may be, but we must not ride away on our own flights of fancy.

The coalman has just arrived at my front door. He normally comes Monday, but today is Friday. The evidence tries to persuade me that this could not be the coalman. He left no coal. There are no "physical traces" of his presence on my doorstep. Is it more economical of me to believe I hallucinated the coalman? No, Manfred would no doubt say. We all realise that coalmen exist so it is not improbable you saw one... but weird craft? What then if I said a funny looking RAF jet just flew over? If it were a new type that Manfred were not aware of, what is the most economical hypothesis then?

I am not in the least unfamiliar with the importance of the aura of silence and other factors. Very far from it in fact (see my article elsewhere in this issue). However, the claims to an "OZ Factor" in the late 1939 case rests on shaky ground. Stillness and lack of traffic in open country, at that hour of a winter day, hardly constitutes a solid basis for presumption. Manfred's description of the "OZ Factor" in the Petit Trianon 'timeslip' is important in a wholly different context. It does me a very nice service in amplifying the points I make in my OZ Factor article. So what is different about the 1939 case? Perhaps nothing. For Manfred's comments about a case deteriorating over time make sense. However, if we are to fully go along with his hallucinogenic hypothesis (as I would certainly like to do) it means we have to explain why the same UFO (as near as damn it), with the same physical properties, is being hallucinated across broad spans of time and space for, what to me, have so far been presented as very vague psychological reasons. Manfred does not actually give us any reasons, which rather begs the question. In my opinion physical reality is a preferable hypothesis unless (or until) we have some sound psychological stimulus that can be demonstrably shown to precipitate the phenomenon under study. I am open to suggestions, but not yet fully satisfied such a situation exists. Readers will probably know that my own theorising does tend to follow somewhat similar lines to that of Manfred. Certainly I have never proclaimed the existence of 'spaceships' (which even the acceptance of 'physical craft' is a very long way removed from... and I have not yet accepted the reality of physical craft!) Nor is it in any way fair to argue that the witness to the 1939 case was somehow encouraged to believe in spaceships by Mark Brown. Mark is far too good an investigator to allow personal beliefs to have any effect on the witness, and from what I know of such beliefs he does hold, they do not include spaceships. Similarly I doubt that my article for PROBE REPORT, written well after the case report was concluded, had any effect whatsoever (through telepathy, magic or the collective unconscious) on the witness.

The article has really one aim, which is directed at myself as much as anyone else. We should not get carried off by our own psychological semantics into thinking the answers must always be subjective. They may, in the end, turn out to be. But we must forever face the prospect that they may not.

Best wishes,
JERRY RANLIES
Wallasey,
Wirral.

Dear Ian,
Coincidence enters often into the puzzling subject of ufology. Even humour - or a smile, as, in Vol 3, No 4 I turned the pages from Stuart Campbell's attack on the credibility of George Adamski to Jerry Ranlies' article on Mark Brown's investigation of what is report-

ed as a genuine 1939 British encounter, which includes a bell-shaped object not too dissimilar to Adamski's. One may cite other examples, notably the photograph taken by thirteen-year old Stephen Darbishire at Coniston, Lancs, in February 1954, showing a 'cabin and four portholes in a row, and a three-ball undercarriage' features of a similar bell-shaped object.

Then there is that weird 'coincidence', the subject of Eileen Buckle's book *The Scorton Mystery* (Neville Spearman, 1967) which relates how an elderly man, Arthur Bryant, walking near Scorton Down, Dartmoor, on April 24th 1965 (the day after George Adamski died) encountered a saucer and three occupants. One said that he was from Venus, that his name was "Yamski" and he referred to a "Des Les", presumably Desmond Leslie. Leslie is reported to have said that Adamski had told him that if he was reborn on another planet, he would attempt to visit Earth!... Eileen Buckle could find nothing to suggest Bryant was a fraud.

I am not suggesting that I consider fact Adamski's claims as he told them. (I will remember a two-hour meeting with him back in 1960, when he attended a local West Midlands UFO group meeting the evening following one of his four lectures in Birmingham. I can recall that, for being with him only for a short time, one could not reach any conclusion about his claims, but why should he tour the world with a fantastic, wilful lie?). As many make the erroneous view - to my mind - that UFOs are either real or not, either physical craft or meta-physical constructs, so we see such contactees as Adamski as either relating a true story or are lying. Perhaps we need, after all, to recognise a middle ground occupied by psychic factors, that the mind is objective, not subjective, that Adamski really believed he was telling a true story, being built up from out of his own psychic make-up, from some initial experience. And here, one may refer to his long-standing interests and beliefs in the wonders of creation and in metaphysics, not to discredit him as a fraud, but to show that this helped to draw, from within himself, the UFO experiences to him, much as we bring fresh snow into the house on our boots.

However, we are still left with the objectivity - or otherwise - of such an initial experience; and with those photos. On the stories be false while the photos are real, or vice versa? If they are both false, how do we consider other witness' photos and descriptions of similar objects? Which goes to show the question of George Adamski remains open.

Yours sincerely,
RAYMOND E. COX
West Midlands.

(The *Scorton Mystery* book itself certainly offered nothing to suggest that the Bryant case was a fraud, but later findings by both Eileen Buckle and Norman Oliver began to reveal otherwise. Of course, Arthur Bryant died before anything conclusive was proven, but nevertheless, the Scorton case in nowadays accepted as an elaborate hoax. Ed)

Dear Sir,
Thank you for the latest issue containing the Adamski article. You have done an important piece of research on George Adamski, and I have sent your magazine to Dr George Runt Williamson - who probably won't wish to answer the allegations. But it would be interesting if he did. (Right first time - he never bothered - Ed) Why does everyone try to find the 'answer' to UFOs? I've been puzzling over this fascinating question for over 20 years as a publisher of UFO titles, including *Flying Saucers Have Landed!* Sorry about that.

There is no cut-and-dried answer - any more than we know exactly what happens to us when we die - although I believe completely in an after-life and reincarnation. They could be something from the future, something from the past, inter-dimensional, inter-terrestrial, something from the collective conscious and heavens knows what else. But they certainly exist and, like man, they all come in different sizes and colours and from

different parts of the universe and outside the universe.

Yours sincerely,
NEVILLE ARMSTRONG
Neville Spearman Ltd,
Sudbury,
Suffolk.

(Just to set it straight, Stuart Campbell did all the work - not me. I just printed it. Ed)

Dear Sir,
I received a copy of The PROBE REPORT together with Journal TAP for January 1983, under some new arrangement with this PROBE organisation. The PROBE REPORT is an insult to the intelligence of anyone with a serious interest in UFO research. It is an affront to the years of hard work done in the past by members of the Research Department of BUFORA Ltd., including myself, who spent a great deal of time and effort attempting to improve the quality of research in the Association. There were some modest achievements.

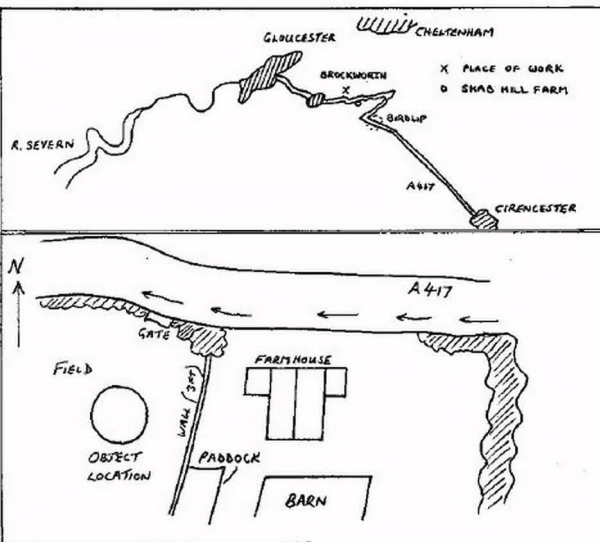
It is a striking contradiction, that while Dr J. Allen Hynek talks in J-TAP of professionalism - "a serious structured approach to a subject", and Peter Hill boasts of vast improvements in research and investigations now being undertaken, - we are force-fed with this worn out and childish "men-in-Black" crap, or if you like, "balderdash", in the PROBE REPORT!!! I am returning this magazine (which I did not request) and should be most grateful if you would arrange to note in the membership records that, under no circumstances, do I wish to receive the PROBE REPORT again!

It is also sad to see the quality of production of J-TAP reduced so dramatically. I appreciate the obvious financial constraints - but I would have thought top priority should have been given to the principal 'organ' of the Association. Serious UFO research and a professional approach, appear to be the 'key words' - but on the present very poor showing I am not at all convinced that BUFORA is practising what it preaches, in fact the evidence seems to indicate a serious decline. As a member of CSEAP for about twelve months, my chief concern was the production of a 'professional-looking' UFO journal. The first issue shows that I may have been some way to achieving this aim. Sadly, however, in their wisdom, the other members decided to sacrifice this potentially rewarding development for the costly maintenance of a 'Resources Centre' whose files are crammed largely with magazines, journals and press cuttings on a par or even worse than this trash-can PROBE REPORT!

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY R. PACE
Prestatyn,
Clwyd.

(As an editor and producer of a journal, I must accept criticism and be able to swallow it as part of my duty. However, when I receive criticism in the form of a letter that uses language more commonplace in a school playground, the position becomes somewhat different. Firstly and foremost, PROBE REPORT is a Journal of UFO Investigation - it says that plainly on the front cover - and not a research journal. You may harp on about research as much as you like, and of your 'modest' achievements ('Modest' - 'Inconspicuous' The Pocket Oxford Dictionary), but PROBE REPORT deals with investigations. The Man-in-Black case was an investigation that did credit to SCUFORT and to British ufology, because they discovered the actual source of the MIB messages by clever ingenuity and a dedication to their work. If you had bothered to go further than the front cover, you would have seen that it wasn't just another MIB item that indeed has tended to dominate many publications over the years, moreso in the USA. It was a serious piece of investigation that could lend itself to research if someone wished to seriously research the MIB syndromes.

I agree with you that the first CSEAP JOURNAL looked professional, but the second issue (which did not enlist your aid) was far better content-wise. If you are only concerned with what a journal looks like, ie "professional-looking", rather than in what goes to make up that journal content-wise, perhaps in this light your criticism should not be taken too seriously. Ed)



CASE CLOSED

HOLIDAY SNAP UFO IAN MRZYGLOD

The SUN daily national tabloid, on 4th January 1982, carried an article under the heading of "Maxine snaps a flying saucer" written by Gordon Broome. The article told the story of the photograph as follows:

"Teenager Maxine Gaffney took a holiday snap with a really exotic view... of a flying saucer. The mysterious shining object appears on one of three pictures she took of the sunrise in Aghios Nikolaos, Crete... but she saw nothing in the viewfinder. Maxine's film stayed

forgotten in her camera after her holiday there last summer. But now the mysterious object has appeared after the film was developed. Maxine, 13, of Southport Road, Chorley, Lancs, said yesterday: "It's weird. I didn't see or hear anything when I was taking the pictures." SUN photographer Roy Spencer said: "The negative is genuine and has not been tampered with. But the picture could result from freak light conditions or a reflection."

"Maxine is sending the picture to the UFO Society of Great Britain."

Actually, the print was sent to BUFOF, the British UFO Society (which is probably what the SUN meant). Upon receipt of the print, a brief examination showed that in the upper half of the sunrise photograph was what appeared to be a bright saucer or disc-shaped object. This object had a dark band around its perimeter, and at first glances did resemble a typical flying saucer; just like so many others in the past. Obtaining an enlargement of the 'UFO' did not show any more detail; in fact a great deal of the object was lost in the process, lacking in any depth. The area of research had to fall around the photograph as a whole and see if there were any clues as to the origin of the image. An investigation into the location was out of the question.

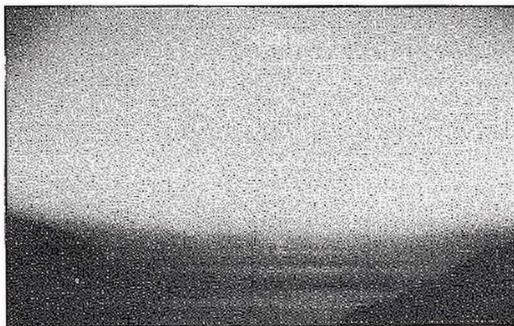
It is not uncommon for people to photograph UFOs without first seeing the object. When such photographs are produced, various possible camera effects have to be taken into consideration. Effects such as lens flare, light entering the camera or even reflection from another light source can create false images that can easily be mistaken for real, solid objects actually photographed.

With this in mind, Brian Everton, chairman of BUFOF, presented the photograph to their photographic analyst, Michael Hall, who after weeks of working on it produced the following report for BUFOF.

'The Gaffney photograph is very impressive at first sight - a large luminous disc apparently hovering over the sea at sunset (should be sunrise - Ed). The disc is far brighter than anything else in the photograph. This brightness could not be caused by the object reflecting the sun from below the horizon because:

- a) the light received by the camera from the disc is of the wrong colour temperature for the time of day - a reflection of sunlight from an object in the sky at sunset would have a definite tendency towards the red end of the spectrum, and;
- b) the light from the disc comes not only from the underside, but also from the top, thereby completely ruling out reflection from the sun.

'The only other explanation which would account for an object being brighter than its environment would be if the object was emitting light from itself. On further examination of the photograph, it becomes apparent that the bright disc-shaped object is in fact not an object at all, but a reflection image of a light source. The evidence for this is as follows:



The Maxine Gaffney photograph showing the object as a disc with a dark band around the perimeter.

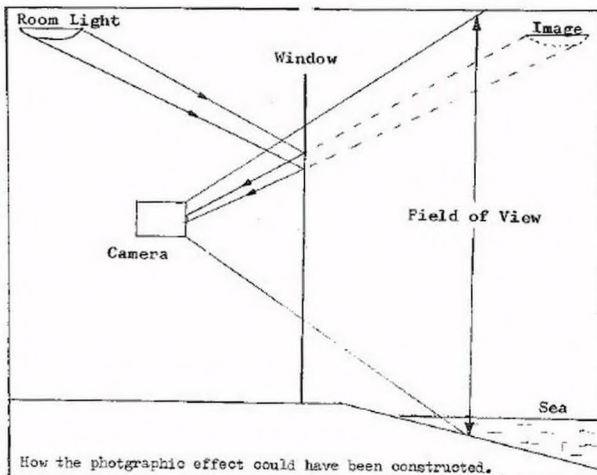
'By looking carefully at the middle band of the photograph where the sky meets the sea, it is possible to detect two definite, if faint, images which should not be there. The first of these images is directly below the bright disc shape, on the horizon. The second image is just to the right of the land mass at the left-hand side of the photograph. Having discovered these images, black and white enlargements were made from the negative in an attempt to identify them. It is possible to identify on the black and white enlargements, (mainly from examination of the variations in grain pattern of the film), although it is by no means clear, various shapes - some of which I am

confident can be identified as reflection images of people. I am certain that if they could be subjected to computerised image enhancement, reflections of a substantial group of people would be revealed. Having, I believe, established the fact that reflection images are recorded in the photograph, we must consider the nature of the medium which they were reflected from - they are obviously not reflected from the sea and the sky. Therefore we must assume the existence of a partially reflective surface between the photographer and the scene being photographed. The most obvious choice for this would be a sheet of glass, such as a window.

'In my own mind I am convinced that this photograph was taken through the window of a large room such as a hotel dining room or lounge. It is quite possible that the photographer would have been unaware of the reflection of the room light in the window when taking the photograph. It is easy to reproduce this effect for oneself by looking out of any window after dark with the room lights on - the room is reflected in the window, and from the right position an observer will see the room light reflected, but looking like it is outside of the room. I would identify the luminous disc with 100% certainty as the reflected image of a room light.'



Enlargement of the image, where a certain degree of the depth is lost. The two halves are clearly distinguishable.



This analytical report I think fairly sums up the true source of the UFO on the Maxine Gaffney photograph, despite the wider assumptions that Maxine had been located in either a lounge or dining room at the time. And also despite the confusion over whether the photo was taken at sunset or sunrise. Unfortunately, the print, as reproduced here, will not distinctly show any figures, but there is no doubt that certain images are visible where mentioned in the BUFOF report. These images form vertical marks, perpendicular to the horizon, and are very likely those of a number of people standing. Cases of this nature are numerous, and in PROBE REPORT Vol 2, No 1, a window-reflection 'UFO' was identified. It is with safe assurance that BUFOF claim this case to be closed, and PROBE concur with the findings, thus labelling this a CASE CLOSED.

Credit to Brian Everton and Michael Hall of BUFOF for allowing us to publish this case. See also BUFOF JOURNAL Volume 1, No 2.

One of the biggest problems in being a writer of books about any aspect of the paranormal is that one is engaged in a personal quest for truth. By virtue of this, one is constantly learning, and thereby adapting one's views, trying new ideas and so forth. Books, however, take a finite time from completion by the author to actually reaching the shops. When they appear as your 'latest' work you may already be considerably beyond them in your thinking. For example, ALIEN CONTACT appeared in paperback in February 1983, and so for many of the public appeared as my current position statement. In fact I last wrote any of that in early 1981 and a great deal has happened to my evolving ideas in those two years.

This is an inescapable difficulty which has had the deepest effect on my development of the concept of the 'OZ Factor'. The work for this arose out of ALIEN CONTACT and resulted, throughout 1981, in the writing of a new book(1). This book describes how I came to isolate the 'OZ Factor' from UFO close encounters, finding it a remarkably common feature. (The 'OZ Factor' will be explained in a moment, have no fear!) However, because of the vagaries of the publishing world, this book is still not in print. Meantime, I have written a further book during the first half of 1982, in which I naturally used my new 'OZ Factor' ideas and extended some of the thinking(2). This book will actually appear in print marginally before the first one. During the latter half of 1982 I began to delve into other areas of the paranormal searching for instances of the 'OZ Factor' here, because I felt this might offer clues about the deeper nature of the UFO Close Encounter. This resulted in a paper to the BUFOGA AGM cross-comparing the 'OZ Factor' in several phenomena and developing my new concepts, the 'spectrum of reality' and the 'Quasi-Conscious experience'. That paper will hopefully appear in some BUFOGA publication in due course, but I worked from its basis to express the more general applications into a contribution I wrote for another book, which has not even found a publisher as yet, and may appear first in another land, and not before 1984(3).

If by this time you are very confused, then that is the entire point I am trying to make. The way my thoughts have come out have unfortunately not been best geared towards your full appreciation of my theory. Since I think it does have some merit, and to help guide you towards placing my various 'OZ Factor' references into context, I have decided to present here a generalised introduction to my basic concept. I hope that you might give it some thought and contribute your own opinions (be they constructively or destructively critical). I certainly have no vested interest in this hypothesis. It just seems to me to be making a great deal of sense at the present moment.

To start off with, what is the 'OZ Factor'? It is a collection of symptoms which I found to be regularly expressed by UFO witnesses. These include comments such as; "...all ambient sounds simply vanished..." "it went suddenly quiet..." "time seemed to stretch on and on..." "I lost all sense of time..." "I felt inwardly calm and peaceful". These are features that are instantly recognisable when they appear and demark a good percentage of the Close Encounters. All that I did was gather them together under the banner of the 'OZ Factor'.

Why the 'OZ Factor'? Well, the witnesses describe a distortion in sensory reality. It was almost as if they were taken out of our 'world' and temporarily put into another where normal laws did not apply. Where magic could occur. It was similar to how Dorothy and Toto are 'abducted' into the land of Oz and was just as magical, hence the name. Although I hasten to add I think it improbable that witnesses are physically taken anywhere during an 'OZ Factor' experience.

Often more than one 'OZ Factor' symptom occurs at once, and I did notice that investigators rarely asked the sort of questions that might lead to the uncovering of the experience in a general report. We mostly had cases where the witness spontaneously mentioned it. As it seemed a relatively obscure set of responses it did seem unlikely not to be a 'real' event (be it on a subjective or objective level). It was not merely an artifact of a cultural process. This forced my enthusiasm to dig deeper. When I started looking for the 'OZ Factor' (subtly of course) in the questions I asked of witnesses, it turned up (in some form or another) so often that it began to look like an important hallmark of the Close Encounter experience. It is probably more common than any other feature (eg physiological effects, car-stops, lightbeams etc). It has to be important, therefore.

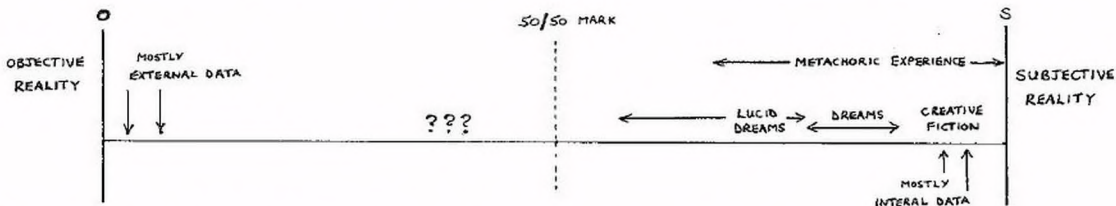
I should pause at this point to add that when I speak of a UFO Close Encounter I am thinking of a distinctly different phenomenon to UFOs, per se. From the very start I have been sure that there is at least a two-way split in 'the phenomenon' creating the real UFO phenomenon (the close encounters) and a physical phenomenon of some kind (or maybe several kinds)(4). This physical phenomenon I have tended to call a UAP (pronounced "whap") (Unidentified Atmospheric Phenomenon). There are presently attempts to try to understand the basis of the UAP, which can be seen, tracked on radar, photographed etc, and which does seem to have associated with it a broad-band radiation of some type. Paul Devereux, for example, thinks it is an earth-energy emission(5). Stuart Campbell disputes this and suggests it is some kind of ball lightning-related emission. Both could be wrong. Both could be right. There may be several different UAPs; indeed I am almost certain there are. But we are not here talking about UAPs. Please let that be understood. The UFOs we refer to are wholly different; characterised by their essential subjectivity (whatever its origin). They are very hard to track on radar or photograph and tend to not be stereotyped, like UAPs, into one format, but appear to be all kinds of UFO and UFO occupant to all kinds of witnesses. I have come this far for a good while and found myself trying to explain it to distrustful investigators and disgruntled witnesses; all of whom suspect I am claiming they are imagining things and as they are adamant this is nonsense I clearly do not know what I am talking about. This dilemma has pained me for years.

I saw my way out of it by drawing up what I called the 'spectrum of reality'. But this was only possible when I found myself delving deeper and deeper into other scientific anomalies, and especially doing a good deal of thinking about dreams, hallucinations and the nature of consciousness. This has gone so far that UFOs are now almost a subsidiary interest of mine; particularly after personal experiences and experiments into these other questions has shown what a vast field they represent. I have to credit Hilary Evans here, because in some respects he guided me towards these views; but they were influenced by many other 'heretical' UFO thinkers too. Prime examples are science-fiction writers Stan Gooch and Lyall Watson and science-fiction writer Ian Watson. Any ufologist who is not widely read in all three of them is missing out on vital information. None of them would even feature on anybody's list of British ufologists either, I suspect. Which is another part of our problem.

My spectrum is shown below. It ranges from the OBJECTIVE to the SUBJECTIVE. At the OBJECTIVE end we mostly take information data in from the external world to our mind. At the SUBJECTIVE end the information data mostly comes from out of our internal world (the mind and its subconscious and unconscious levels). This is never strictly 100% true. Objectively 'real' events are coloured by internal processes, eg 'mental set' (a person's previous beliefs). Subjective events too are interfered with by

the intrusion of objective data from the outside world. The cold bedroom air might invade our dreams.

The fact that neither extreme is really an extreme suggests that the gulf between the two ends is not empty, which is why it pays to think in terms of a spectrum, which like a rainbow might have one kind of experience blending imperceptibly into another. That this is so is shown by our awareness of other niches on the spectrum. We have, for example, rare kinds of dream (a subjective experience towards the S end of the spectrum). These dreams, called lucid dreams, are where the dreamer knows he is dreaming during the dream and can control its outcome. I have had several and they are truly fascinating. The OQBE (Out-of-the-body-experience) is in many senses just an extreme from the lucid dream. Indeed it may just be that(6). Somewhere on the spectrum too are hypnagogic and hypnopompic hallucinations (which I've also had - generally termed Metachoric Experiences).



What the spectrum shows is immediately obvious. There is a bias towards the subjective side, which as nature tends to prefer balance seems to stick out like a sore thumb. I have placed the ??? symbol by the empty gulf: an experience (or range of experiences) on the objective side of the 50/50 dividing line but with heavy subjective overtones. Following my practice so far of naming something, partly to recognise its existence, and to give me something to work with, I filled in the ??? with the term 'Quasi-Conscious Experience' (or QC Experience for short). This seems apt because it has the semblance of conscious reality but it is not quite.

Of course, you may realise that the QC Experience is no empty void waiting to be filled. It is very real. It is, in fact, what I think we otherwise call the UFO Close Encounter. But it is almost certainly more than that. For the UFO Close Encounter is merely one variant on a broader theme. In the past the QC Experience (which you may if you choose call a vision... I did not not because the word has unfortunate religious connotations) has been expressed in many ways. No doubt it is still expressed in other forms as well as the UFO Close Encounter. Perhaps you now see why I found it impossible to study this side of the UFO phenomenon in total isolation from many other paranormal experiences. It would be like trying to understand how an aeroplane works just by studying a Spitfire. You might learn a lot, but if you broaden your scope and look at other kinds of craft as well, you will learn much, much more about the basics.

In my view the 'OZ Factor' is a symptom of the QC Experience, pointing to its having occurred. It would therefore by definition be found in other types of QC Experience beyond the UFO Close Encounter. I searched and I duly found. The 'OZ Factor' has been described by witnesses to; OQBEs, precognitions and clairvoyant readings in my researches so far. I have also recently learnt of a personal Stan Gooch experience (which defies categorisation) in which he experienced; "a dreamy slowness... I was perfectly calm and detached... thought some of my companions were shouting and the car itself must have been making a good deal of noise, I could hear only faint sounds. The slowing of time seemed also to have muted sound."(7) This is instantly recognisable as the 'OZ Factor'.

In my view there is only one obvious common denominator between these seemingly diverse phenomena. That is the consciousness of the participating witness. I am here only concerned with the implications for ufology (al-

though the implications for other subjects should be apparent). But it means that (whatever the stimulus) the UFO Close Encounter (as with all QC Experiences) is a consciousness event.

Another interesting point from the spectrum of reality is this: in many senses the QC Experience is the mirror image of the lucid dream. It is, if you like, a waking lucid dream. We may even prefer to call it that, although in my experience it will be easier not to try to tell witnesses they have had any form of dream (waking, lucid or otherwise!) Hence my QC terminology.

In a lucid dream proper, the basic subjective imagery is intruded by objective conscious experience, which then affords some control over it. In the QC Experience, therefore, or this type of QC Experience if indeed there are several sub-varieties (as I suspect) the opposite is true. Basic objective imagery (from the outside world)

is intruded by subjective conscious experience. This implies that a QC Experience may be built by the mind upon an essentially objective stimulus. Now this is a fascinating revelation because it is precisely what we have found in ufology by an entirely different route.

Allan Hendry first showed the paramount importance of UFO cases suspected a psychological cause(8). I was set onto it immediately, by personal investigations where a complex close encounter was generated by a very mundane stimulus (eg the Moon or Venus) and by some curious reactions by then BUFORA Research Officer, Tony Pace(9). Pace chose to attack my suggestion that there might be an interesting clue in the fact that UFOs were often severe distortions of very ordinary things. Such was the force of his hostility that he made me dig much deeper than I might have, a favour for which I shall always be curiously grateful. It does look, therefore, as if a QC Experience can be stimulated into being by very explicable things. It may even be true in every close encounter. But to say so, and thus dismiss the phenomenon as an hallucination, is closing the door on a fascinating new chapter in human experience.

I am not at this stage going to proceed further. I am sure you see the questions that arise; such as why does the QC Experience occur? From whence does the stimulus come that distorts the objective, but explicable event, in the way described? My forthcoming books do examine these questions but much work remains to be done. However, I have set out my basic thesis, as explained at the start, and must only now await (with much interest) your anticipated attacks!

References:

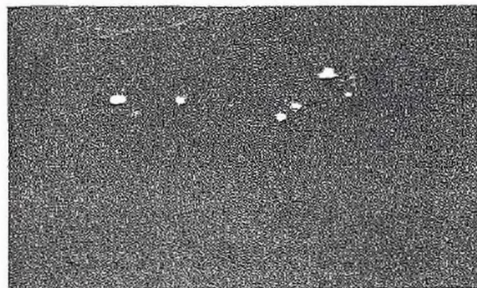
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UFGS: A PHENOMENON OF NATURE HARLEY RUTLEDGE PH.D.

This is a response to a letter by Stuart Campbell and to an article by Jenny Randles (Vol 3; No 2 - Oct 1982), both very competent UFO investigators. They refer to Hilary Evans' important BOLS article (Vol 3; no 1 - July 1982), suggesting that BOLS (balls of light) are mysterious natural phenomena such as ball lightning (BL) or Unidentified Atmospheric Phenomena (UAP). Further, they propose that BOLS undergo peculiar behaviour, controlled by enigmatic natural forces. Campbell and Randles both refer to my book, PROJECT IDENTIFICATION: The First Scientific Field Study of UFO Phenomena (Prentice-Hall, 1981). Before responding to their comments and criticism of our field of work, let me introduce myself to friends across the sea.

Project Identification was formed to carry out scientific research with instrumentation as UFOs appeared. The Project originated at Piedmont, Missouri, in April 1973, after I had seen 12 lights in three nights that had speeds ranging from 'hover' to 'streak'. (Piedmont lies about 75 miles west of Cape Girardeau, home of Southeast Missouri State University). The Project was funded by the St. Louis Globe-Democrat newspaper, by the University, and by private monies. The University Research Council awarded three research grants. All told, 40 scientists, engineers, students and laymen worked in the field during the seven-year period. Some nights on watch, we had nearly \$40,000 worth of equipment in the field. Operationally, we divided UFOs into two classes; A and B. The Class A sighting was technologically incredible whilst a Class B sighting was one that ranged from extra ordinary to extraordinary.

During 157 sightings, we saw 178 UFOs; the 34 Class A sightings involved 46 UFOs. During 32 sightings, we recorded apparent UFO reactions to Project observers. I have seen 158 UFOs, 40 from my yard in Cape Girardeau. I have seen seven UFO vehicles, including two flying discs. My professional qualifications to discuss BOLS and BL follow. My PhD degree is in solid state physics from the University of Missouri, Columbia. Consequently I have some familiarity with plasmas in theory and in the laboratory. I have worked in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce in their research to detect a tornado by its electromagnetic (EM) signature from lightning. During our field research, I observed 88 of 102 types of natural and man-made phenomena as listed in the book, UFGS, A Scientific Debate, by prominent Harvard astronomer, Dr Donald Menzel, plus a few not listed(1). For example, I have observed a flash of broad illumination of a clear sky at night(2). I have seen a rectangle of lightning in a cloud; probably the geometric pattern was caused by cloud structure. From my office in daylight, I have observed a lightning stroke that appeared to form 'liquid light globules' along the surface of the stroke. Nevertheless, I am not an expert in plasma physics.



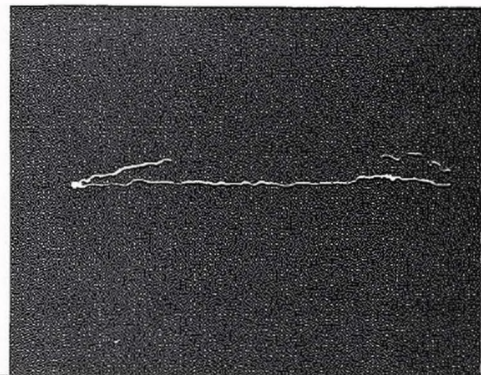
A 10-second exposure of a single ball of light moving right to left. Note several lights rather than the expected single trail. Film: Kodak 2475, ASA 1000. Lens: 35mm, f/3.5 (John Wilson).

Now let us examine the Campbell-Randles hypothesis. Campbell hypothesizes that "BL can explain BOL reports" because "BL is operating outside its conventional parameters". This is not a new concept. With reference to our sightings of BOLS in southeast Missouri, Dr J.Allen Hynek stated in 1973: "But lights that go wandering are not new, not visitors from outer space. They are a natural phenomenon that we haven't got an explanation for"(3). It isn't clear to me if Campbell says that all BOL reports can be explained as BL, or just some of them. But he does imply that all of the sightings in Project Identification were BL.

Meanwhile, Jenny Randles adopts an all-inclusive Unidentified Atmospheric Phenomenon (UAP) as stimuli for UFO reports. These are "natural phenomena that are rare and presently unrecognized by science". Further, they both reject the concept of UFO intelligence but accept that UFO percipients do report apparent BOL reactions to observers. In other words, they hypothesize a phantom phenomena that even they cannot hint at - unless it is Campbell's "(small) personal EM field generated by the human body or to a change in electric potential as the body moves," - or Randles' suggestion "that cars have metal bodies and may attract an electromagnetic phenomenon." Isn't this an escalation of hypotheses, typical of Occam's Razor - a principle critics never tire of quoting?



A 20-second exposure of a light that approached Pyle's Mountain. Motion is right to left. Film: Polaroid Type 107, ASA 3000. Lens: f/8.8. (Harley Rutledge).



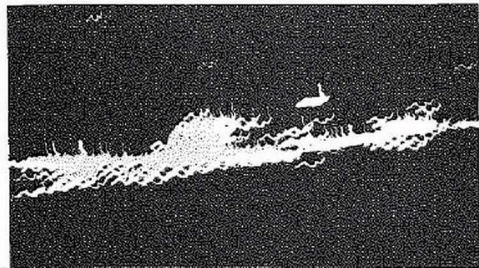
A 4-second exposure of a light that approached Pyle's Mountain. Motion is right to left. Friday night, 18th May 1973. Film: Kodak Tri-X, ASA 800. Lens: Soligor 800 mm, f/8. Questar Tripod used. (Bob Adams).

Before responding to their hypotheses, let us summarize the properties of BL. Ball lightning is a rare, electric discharge in the form of a ball (among other shapes), usually lasting for about five seconds, but exhibiting lifetimes up to several minutes. Usually BL is a red, glowing or hollow ball, 10-20 centimetres in diameter, surrounded by a blue contrasting area with vague borders. However, sizes may be up to 40 feet in diameter, even 800 feet. The ball can be blindingly white and sharply defined occasionally. Usually, it is created by a lightning bolt. It disappears quietly, or with a mild bang, or with a terrific explosion. The ball may float freely or attach to a conductor. It travels slowly but may travel at speeds of more than 60 mph and may fly against the wind(4).

Because the description of BL is similar in many ways to that of BOLS, the BL hypothesis deserves consideration, as does the UAP hypothesis. Careful consideration of the nature of the UFO reactions and of the other behaviour patterns should indicate whether there is intelligence. If intelligence is present, then both hypotheses are invalid.

Very early in the field research, I suspected the presence of intelligence. Our second night at Piedmont (12th April 1973) my pilot and I saw a sizeable orange light appear on a mountain off to our right. We turned and the light soon extinguished. Simultaneously, an identical light appeared on our right again, near or on the ground. Again, we turned to approach. Suddenly, it 'shot' into the sky at an estimated 7,200 miles per hour. The next night, on the ground, more than 20 of us observed a small BOL pass low across our front on four occasions. On the fourth transit, a streak of orange light appeared to collide with or enter the slow-moving BOL.

Not only did BOLS apparently react to Project observers, so did UFO craft. For example, in June 1973, I had loaded my car with equipment for night viewing and turned toward the house. From behind intervening trees, a slow-moving object emerged. Very short and thick, it was shaped like a .45 calibre bullet. I held up a thumb and forefinger at arm's length, framing the grey, featureless craft to estimate its angular width. Immediately, it turned to a green (olive drab) colour. I grabbed my binoculars, taking my eyes off the craft for no more than two seconds. When I looked up, it had vanished. This was definitely a Class A sighting!

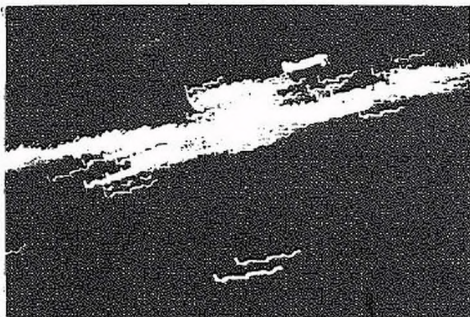


This is an approximate one-minute exposure of a small ball of light, moving right to left. The light hovered near the Farmington, MO, airport, then extinguished for 15 minutes when an aircraft flew toward it. It came on again and moved north. (24th May, 1973; Kodak Tri-X film, ASA 800. Lens: 50mm, f/1.4) (Harley Rutledge)

Yes, Campbell says there is "no ambiguous evidence that the UFO phenomenon is intelligently controlled." How does he explain lights that hover, blink at each other as if using a code, join together then fly off in a blur? In other cases one light comes into an area at night, 'discharges' smaller lights for a couple of hours of reconnaissance while pretending to be a star, then gathers up the 'brood' and 'shoots' over the horizon. A natural phenomenon? Why would an F-4 Phantom jet break the sound barrier diving toward a BOL, chase it, then

execute a figure-eight (search?) pattern when the light goes out? Does BL hover on a clear night as a pseudostar? That takes intelligence.

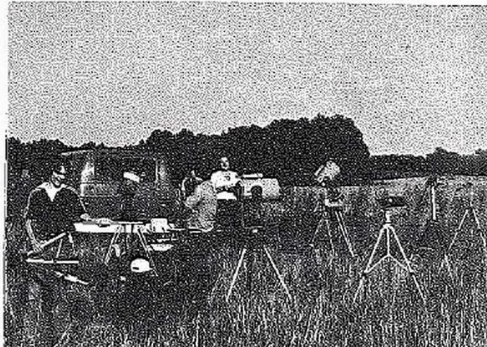
Summarizing our seven-year field study, we observed apparent UFO reactions such as lights that (a) turned off and/or on, (b) moved or shot away, (c) avoided our viewing stations by turning through angles of up to 180°, and (d) disappeared behind trees. The types and number (in parentheses) of stimuli for the 32 apparent reactions to observers are: vehicles or aircraft (5), pointing fingers or aiming flashlights, binoculars, telescopes or cameras (16), our voices (2), our radio signal (3), telepathy (theirs) (2), and an awareness by the UFO of being seen (4).



A second one-minute exposure of the light in the previous photograph. Note that the image consists of numerous light images, not the singular image as expected. The wavy patterns are due to slight camera-shake. (H.Rutledge)

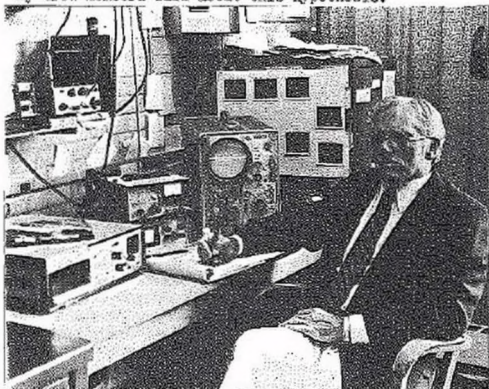
Is there a UAP that follows cars at night, as many persons have reported? Is there some natural attractive force we do not understand that causes the UAP to single out a car on an isolated road at night and pursue it? But, in those cases where a vehicle or aircraft chases the BOL instead, as our Bob Adams did, should we hypothesize a repulsive force now? What about one expert's opinion that a floating ball of BL (a special UAP) "keeps its distance from human bodies as from good conductors." (5).

Campbell's assumption that BL reacts to small human EM fields or electric potentials requires close proximity of BL. He simply ignores the apparent distal reactions experienced by myself and other Project members, a tactic used by sceptics and cynics in the United States. Since the reactions were at a distance, I must conclude that an intelligence was involved. Of the glut of explanations that UFOs are a natural phenomenon, thirteen are listed in my book(6). Consider a few more.



Exposure made during a field setup at Elsberry, about 30 miles northwest of St. Louis on 3rd July 1978.

Our claim of 157 sightings is incredible. Perhaps this is why sceptics and cynics are impelled to defend their avowed public stance by claiming that we in Project Identification suffered mass hallucinations or even massive self-delusion - over a period of seven years. M.A. Persinger, a competent scientist, even suggests that we were affected by low frequency (0.1 - 10 Kz) alpha brain waves, generated by stresses in piezo-electric quartz embedded in the New Madrid (Missouri) fault zone(7). He was not the first to propose such an explanation(8). Years ago, Dr Carl Sagan refuted the magneto and mass hallucination hypotheses(9). Further, Persinger says that electric fields from those same stressed quartz crystals extend upward from the ground and create BOLS by ionization of the air. Supposedly, if we did not see the balls of ionization directly, we imagined we saw them by magneto hallucination! Even more startling to me were statements by well-meaning Janet and Colin Bord in their favourable review of my book in FGR(10). They offer a "natural explanation for at least some of our sightings." Sound familiar? Then they follow with "...in some cases, the witnesses (us) were actually creating the lights they saw..." This was neither mass hallucination nor magneto hallucination, but 'mass creation.' I cannot print what some of my crew members said about this hypothesis!



Dr Harley Rutledge sat at the equipment used for UFO detection. Shown are an automatic recording magnetometer, spectrum analyzer, antenna rotator, Geiger counter, and oscilloscope. Note the cables leading up to the detectors on the roof over his office.

To Stewart Campbell's discredit, he states: "It is evident from his book that he had a mental set disposing him to see the phenomenon as a vehicle occupied by intelligent beings." True, for some sightings I strongly suspected human intelligence. On pages 210, 213, 217 and 252 of my book, I suggest that the phenomenon we were observing might be man-made. Repeatedly, in public, I have averred that I would, if forced, choose the man-made origin hypothesis - but with serious reservations. Further, Campbell abuses my credibility as a scientist when he writes: "As a scientist, he should have asked himself whether he was dealing with a new (or extension of an old) natural phenomenon." Isn't Campbell groping when he projects so much "natural" activity in southeast Missouri, considering the plethora of sightings over a relatively short time in this area? Even Karl Berger, noted Swiss atmospheric physicist, never observed ball lightning or found its image on photographs in 16 years of storm lightning studies, which included panoramic photography of storms(11).

I do remain open-minded and decidedly not naive. I will not embrace every unsubstantiated hypothesis that comes along, being from the great "Show Me" state of Missouri. I would be pleased if one of the Campbell-Handles hypotheses is correct. But consider this logic statement near the end of my book: "I believe that the UFO intelligence uses this information to mimic man and his technology."

A 5-minute exposure taken in the direction of the Big Dipper (Ursa Major) from a road near Chaffee. The light near the Big Dipper handle (Alkaid) was not seen. Film: Kodak 2475, ASA 1000. Lens: 23mm, f/3.5. Seven years later, an identical setup and exposure did not produce the light on film. (Harley Rutledge).

A 15-second exposure of a 'pseudostar' that 'jiggled' when observed through binoculars, moving left (north) when the exposure began. Trees are visible in this plate (not in the book PROJECT IDENTIFICATION) although they are blurred because of some camera vibration.

In closing, I make a suggestion to Hilary Evans. He has hypothesized a "natural, intelligent, protean entity" he calls a BOL, an entity reminiscent of a lifeform that might exist on the planet Jupiter, as proposed by Sagan (12). Certainly Hilary's BOL satisfies Jenny Randles' concept of a UAF, if not Stewart Campbell's extended concept of EL. Perhaps an appropriate label for Evans' ectoplasmic entity should be one word: SUPERNATURAL (sic).

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- 3) "UFO Sightings Make Missouri Professor a Believer in South," Kansas City Times, December 8, 1973.
- 4) Singer, Stanley. The Nature of Ball Lightning, (New York: Plenum Press, 1971) p69.
- 5) Singer, p63.
- 6) Project Identification, p245.
- 7) Haines, Richard P. ed, UFO Phenomena and the Behavioral Scientist, (New Jersey: Scarecrow Press, 1979), "Possible Infrequent Geophysical Sources of Close UFO Encounters: Expected Physical and Behavioral-Biological Effects," Michael A. Persinger. Persinger, M.A. and G.F. Lafraniere, Space-Time Transients and Unusual Events, (Chicago: Nelson-Hall, 1977), p214.
- 8) Persinger, M.A. ed, ELF and VLF Electromagnetic Field Effects, (New York: Plenum Press, 1974), "ELF Fields: Problems and Patterns," M.A. Persinger, p294 ff.
- 9) Condon, Edward U., Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects, (New York: E.P. Dutton, 1969), Chapter 7. "Atmospheric Electricity and Plasma Interpretations of UFOs," Martin D. Atschuler, p740.
- 10) Sagan, Carl and Thornton Page, eds, UFOs - A Scientific Debate, (Ithaca, N.Y. Cornell University Press, 1972), "Addendum Discussion," by eds, p294.
- 11) Bord, Janet and Colin, Flying Saucer Review, Vol 27, No 4, February 1982, England. p19.
- 12) Singer, p78.
- 13) Sagan, Carl, COSMOS, (New York: Random House, 1980), pp40-41.

Readers may recall that in volume 3; No 3 of The PROBE REPORT, Bob Boyd of the Plymouth UFO Research Group (PUFORG) and myself (your editor) had a 'mild exchange' of words and opinions regarding comments I had made in an earlier issue over Warminster's UFOs. I had said that hopefully our re-investigation of Warminster would "kill off Warminster's UFOs for good." I also happened, in that very same issue (Vol 3; No 2) to give PUFORG's booklet UFOs OVER PLYMOUTH a very critical review, which not surprisingly upset PUFORG. My (or PROBE's) efforts towards the rationalising of the UFO problem in Warminster certainly hit a sore spot with Bob, and readers were treated to a good old fashioned slanging match.

However, private correspondence between Bob and myself cooled things down, and an understanding was reached, culminating in Bob offering to prepare an article detailing his experiences which made him so convinced of Warminster's UFOs, and equally convinced that I was wrong. A quick note in the SIGNALS column of last issue reported that Bob had indeed contacted me to this effect and I am pleased to say that he was good to his word. The article as sent to me is printed in its entirety, with little editing, as you will see that I found it difficult to even try. The article is very personal and subjective in nature, and perhaps offers more of a 'personal' evidence than a sort of evidence that an outsider would require. A UFO experience is unique to the recipient, and no amount of criticism or ridicule can deny that person his own feelings on the matter. Of course, how the recipient perceives the event has always been the basis of the problems in sorting out the hard data that is necessary for a scientific evaluation from the testimony that is purely subjective in nature. Bearing all this in mind, read the article thoroughly and then perhaps send in your thoughts which I could either answer or send on to Bob, or both. One final note though, my own personal reaction to this article is that there has to be some connection between what Bob Boyd says, and what Jenny Randles has to say in her article on the '02 Factor'.

I have seen too many UFOs. Why this is so I don't know. Maybe I was born to see them (like some people are born to play the violin). Maybe I just happen to be in the right place at the right time, maybe they have some special significance to me, or I to them. Maybe I was born on the right day (26/8/47), two months after Kenneth Arnold's sighting, or maybe I am just extra observant. Whatever the reason, I have seen dozens. Whilst I do not attach any great significance to the minor sightings (eg, the dozen or so red lights we, PUFORG, saw whilst on sky-watch at Jay's Grave, Dartmoor, at different times from different directions. Sometimes there were 2 or 3 in the sky at a time, when there was no activity at local airports. There were clusters of lights seen descending into a wood and there were sightings on other visits to Warminster, which included the 'ambler gambler'. There was also a cluster of lights that accompanied a coach in which I was the only passenger, travelling on a night-time trip from Plymouth to Hayle, Cornwall. I also saw a triangle of white, blue and red lights hovering over a hill alongside a radio mast light.

My major sightings are the ones that have influenced my thought trains though, and a couple of them have come at such times that I truly believe them to be answers to questions I was asking at the time. The final sighting at Warminster, though nothing appeared on the photograph I took, was a sign to me that I was pursuing the right course. It occurred at precisely the time I was supposed to be boarding the train home, literally in the last minutes of my holiday. All week I had been praying for my daughter who was in intensive care after a very bad birth. She had been given an emergency Christening the day after she was born, and we were told that they didn't expect her to live 24 hours. I truly believe prayer

saved her, something a couple of years earlier I would have ridiculed. And during my whole week at Warminster my prayers were all for Sarah. The sighting in the last minute of my holiday was a gift; a bonus - and it meant for me; a vision.

I fully understand researchers of the scientific bent recoiling in horror and derision at these statements. Only I can know the truth of what I am saying and the experiences I have had - and the enlightenment that has come from these experiences can only mean something to me. I rarely talk about my personal experiences and I think it would be fair to say that they have to be dragged from me.

My major sightings start from an early age, when I was 8 or 9 years old. A friend called me outside to see a black triangle spinning counter-clockwise and travelling slowly from left to right above our houses. Nobody could explain it, so from a very young age I knew there were odd things going on. At 15 or 16 years, three friends and myself were leaving a local fiarground at approximately 11 pm, when we saw a red shining globe hanging over the sea and casting a red glow on it. It was larger than the Moon and it had irregular lines on it. We at first thought it was Mars! When I was 20, and in London, two friends and myself saw a large silver ball slowly cross over 60° of the clear, blue sky. I thought it was a satellite.

At the age of 24, I was at a bus stop when I saw a stationary, vertical grey cigar-shape. I pointed it out to a girl at the stop, and we both watched it for 5 minutes until the bus came. We watched for a further 4 or 5 minutes as the driver and conductor also began to watch the UFO. The girl was still watching whilst on the bus, and then the bus left. The last I saw of it was when I bent down as we passed where it was (alongside the Town Hall, South Shields) and caught a glimpse of a small part of it. This sighting changed my whole approach to UFOs, as up until this time, UFOs were machines carrying little green men or whatever (I rejected Adamski's book, which was the first one I came across). A couple of weeks later I saw the girl again, and what she told me forced me to change my approach. This change, from interplanetary travellers to affairs of the mystical side of man, brought real and positive answers. I have yet to come across any evidence that radically changes this precept. I believe that UFOs are to do with the soul of Man.

At the age of 25, whilst returning to South Shields from a trip to London with a colleague named Ivan, we pulled into a car park for him to have a quick sleep. It was 11 pm, and a beautiful twilight evening. As soon as we stopped, I was looking straight at a very bright star which was swinging like a pendulum. Ivan went to sleep, after confirming what I was seeing. Two hitchhikers we had picked up nearly shot through the windscreen when seeing the star. The star continued to fade and then brighten up again, and I got out of the car to get a better look. Eventually I sat back inside the car and we watched it for 3/4 hour in silence until we woke up Ivan so that we could move on. "UFO dead ahead Ivan", I said. The UFO was still there when we left.

At 26 years of age, I experienced a very important Warminster sighting, details of which I shall reveal at a point later on in this article.

On 13th January 1982, whilst waiting in my friend's van, my attention was drawn to a fluorescent, orange oblong-shaped object at an angle of 75°, moving very slowly to the north east. This object appeared to be one inch in size, at arms length and very silent. It was 12 noon and the sky was blue with no cloud and no wind. We were outside a school and several women were going in, one of

whom saw it but carried on into the building. The object was in sight for about six minutes and we watched it until it vanished into the distance over Dartmoor. It kept a slow, steady pace and direction all the time it was in view.

I must point out here that I have never seen a 'flying saucer'. I have never seen a UFO that looks like it is a machine that has flown from another place. Nothing I have seen looks like a 'spacecraft'. It wasn't until I started studying the literature after I got married, that I realised that some of the early things I had seen were in fact UFOs and not Mars, satellites or very fast boats (that's another sighting). Up to this period, I had never associated what I had seen with 'flying saucers', though I accepted that flying saucers existed.

Whether it is accepted or not, there is a mystical significance to life, and I believe that all of us are given clues, some more than others, as to the existence and reality of the 'other side of life'. These clues can be given in various ways, but I believe in such a way that the sign is recognisable to the recipient. I look upon these signs as mystic prods, to draw attention to the alternative reality. We have the free will to pursue or ignore these 'prods' and in doing so will determine the amount and quality of further prods. The prods can come in a variety of ways; good fortune, psychic abilities, coincidences, visions, prodigious gifts or the ability to recognise the gifts of others, ghosts, mysterious events, miracles of nature, UFO sightings, religious miracles, etc. And dependent upon our reaction to these things is the mystical reality of life revealed to us. When reading a very old book called "HINDU THOUGHT", I came across this passage: "God appears close to them that wish to know Him, yet far from those that do not wish to have a knowledge of Him."

This is a profoundly true statement, and I think should be seriously considered by all involved in UFO thinking. Even if it is thought to be just another religious platitude, it won't hurt anyone as an experiment to put it to the test. As an eliminatory exercise, seriously pose the question, "If UFOs have anything to do with God, can I please have a sign of this?" This is the approach I took after the cigar-shaped object sighting, and the answers were rapid and direct.

While I have never had any money, I have had a very full life and extraordinary coincidences have figured strongly in it. I believe coincidence to be more than coincidence! I will quote three that I thought were quite interesting.

1) When I first read the Hindu passage above, I was travelling on a train to London. It was just outside of Northallerton when I read the passage, and because I had just recently come to realise that UFOs can appear anywhere and anytime they choose, it really struck me and as I lifted my head, I was looking at a white horse out in the turf of a hill some miles off. And stationary in the air above this was a white object which remained there until the white horse went out of sight. Nothing to it? Maybe not, but for me the combination of this profound statement, a white horse (relevant to other lines of research I was conducting) and the UFO potent.

2) I married my wife, who comes from St. Budeaux, Plymouth in London, and we moved to Tyneside in 1970. Tyneside was a great cultural shock to her and while she liked the people and vitality of the place, she just couldn't come to terms with the dirt, the cold and the lack of greenery. So after some years, she began to want to move back to Plymouth. After avoiding the issue for some time, at Christmas in 1976 I said we would make positive efforts to come down. On Carol's birthday, 17th January, there was an advert in the GAZETTE for an exchange from Plymouth to South Shields. We phoned it immediately and found that the house was a 7 minute walk from Carol's mother's house. A nice birthday present? Within 4 months we were living in Plymouth and within 6 months I was chairman of FUFORG.

3) Some time ago I was at a jumble sale and bought a very smart three-piece brown suit for 50p. I bought it for my father-in-law because I thought it would be too small for me. However, I tried it on at home and it fitted perfectly. It was a very nice suit. An hour

later the BBC telephoned and asked me to appear on TV. Naturally I wore the suit.

One more. A few days before Christmas last year, I went into a junk shop and there was a pile of UFO books which I bought for 25. It consisted of mint condition, first edition copies of; The Truth About Flying Saucers by A. Michel; Flying Saucers From Outer Space by Keyhole; Flying Saucers Have Landed by Leslie & Adamski; The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects by E. Ruppelt; Inside The Space Ships by Adamski; Flying Saucers From Another World by Giese and Flying Saucer From Mars by Allingham. I thought this was a staggering find. Coincidence? I defy anyone to go anywhere and repeat this find. Coincidence? You know what I thought? I thought it was a Christmas present from above. Of all the junk shops in England, or even in Plymouth, those books just happened to turn up in a shop literally two minutes from my home in walking time. Was it no more than coincidence that FUFORG's best case happened $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from my house, and that the UFO, if it existed on course, would have passed over my house? (Bishop burn case, see FSR Volume 28, No 3)

Anyway, on the Warminster sighting that I previously mentioned. Late in 1972 I wrote to Arthur Shuttlewood seeking advice on camping in Warminster, and he put me in touch with someone who arranged for me to stay in the BUPORA caravan in July 1973 at a cost of 24. During that stay, I visited Avebury and Glastonbury, but most of the time was spent in Warminster on Cradle Hill. Skywatching with Ken Rogers (who used to run the British UFO Society-BUPOS) we had a number of minor sightings. The feeling is now gone but in that week in July, Warminster was pregnant with feeling. There was such a feeling of magic about the place that I do not believe was merely my reaction to the place. It was very different from South Shields - sweet air and rich, green vegetation. Very quiet and tranquil and very few people. They said that the week I was there was the best for weather that year.

Anyway, my friend Ivan had dropped me off in Warminster the previous week, after a business trip to London, and had said that if he was in London on the 7th he would come down and pick me up. At 11 am on Saturday 7th, I took a walk up to Cradle Hill, arriving back in the town at about 12.30 or so. I went to the station to see what time the trains were leaving, and my train was due to go at 3.03 pm. I then walked to the nearest telephone to see if Ivan was coming to pick me up. His wife confirmed that he had gone to London but she didn't know if he was coming to Warminster. So I decided to get packed and ready to leave. As I left the telephone box, Ivan pulled up. We went back to the caravan to have something to eat. I told him that he would have to see Cradle Hill before we left, and it was then that I began to get a strong feeling that we had to visit the hill. This feeling increased until we left to go there. (I have always had strong intuitive feelings, which although I have not always followed up, they invariably turn out to be correct. I am not psychic).

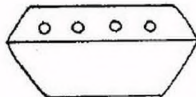
As we pulled up at the bottom of Cradle Hill, we immediately saw in the far distance over Salisbury Plain, an upright, white cigar shape, and we were quite excited for 10 seconds until we realised that it was a glider banking. We then saw others come into view. We had a laugh about this and were still sitting in the car, talking and watching the gliders, when I saw a bright white oblong emerge from behind the second copse and very slowly float towards the top of Cradle. As usual, I waited for the object to reveal itself as an ordinary aeroplane (expecting it to bank so I could see the wings) but I realised that it was too close for it to be a 'plane and not show more detail. I jumped out of the car and saw that the object was now midway between the two copses that line the top of Cradle Hill. I took a photograph. Ivan, meanwhile, had been looking towards the gliders and it wasn't until he got out of the car that he too saw the object.

He was amazed; he could see the object spinning and he could see windows on it. He told me to take a photo, but I told him I already had. Ivan was truly excited, swearing and shouting. I believed I was watching a divine vision, and there was Ivan 'effing and blinding'. I had to smile though, Ivan was literally jumping up and

down. The object then went behind the copse at the top of Cradle and out of sight. We were both standing there amazed when Ivan asked how we could get to the top. I personally knew that we had seen all we were going to, but I went along with Ivan, jumped over the gate and ran up the hill. Halfway up we saw a tractor approaching Ivan's car, so he turned back just in case he had to move it to allow the tractor to pass. I reached the copse and saw two young couples. They hadn't seen or heard anything. I then went to the crest of the hill but could see nothing. Ivan rejoined me. I then looked up into the sky and saw a couple of black dots (similar to the ones that for some reasons during the week had seen but failed to photograph), but this time I took another photograph. I pointed them out to Ivan and as we watched, more and more appeared. They didn't fly in at all, they just seemed to appear at a tremendous height and seemed to be spiralling down, yet didn't get any closer. I took another photograph. Although odd, these things were of little impact at the time because of the momentous sighting we had just had. We then walked through the copse towards the second copse and then in the distance I saw an airborne black triangle approaching. Realising that it could be a Vulcan bomber, I still took a photo as it got nearer. I took one more, even though it was still too far away to properly identify. The time was now 3.20 pm. (The first sighting had been 3.00 pm.) and by now we both felt that we would see nothing else. and went back to the car. We left at 3.30 pm.

The distance from Warminster to Tyneside is a few hundred miles, and whilst "plagued" may be overstating the case, we repeatedly saw unidentified flying objects throughout the journey. In the main they were the 'black dot' things but occasionally lights, or star-like objects were seen. When nearly home, we saw a magnesium-type light that left a trail behind it and threw out sparks either side. This happened in darkness and the UFO approached from behind, flew directly over us and eventually disappeared over the brow of the approaching hill. All the 'things' we had seen on the journey had either flown directly across our path or had paced alongside us. We had a strong feeling of 'presence'.

Earlier in the journey, Ivan had been quite distressed by something that emerged in a conversation at a café we had stopped in for coffee. We had been discussing the main Warminster sighting and Ivan kept referring to its 'grey' colour. I remarked that it was white. He was insistent about the UFO being a metallic grey and alas that it had windows. I never saw any windows, so I suggested that we both draw what we each saw. This was the result.



Ivan's UFO



Mine

Ivan was quite upset by this and was adamant that it was impossible for us to have seen different things. I tried to explain that it didn't really matter, because I knew that what I was seeing was a sign - whereas he was seeing whatever his preconceived ideas made him see, or whatever his mind was best able to handle. He disagreed, saying that this was impossible, and that the 'Martians' or whatever they were, couldn't go around appearing different to everyone who saw them. My beliefs were that they weren't from Mars, or anywhere like that - they were visions. This was all too much for Ivan. For a couple of years he had listened to my UFO patter but understandably couldn't really attach the same importance to it as I did. Now he had just experienced an amazing sighting that seemed to point to the fact that UFOs were machines from another planet - and I was telling him that the mysterious craft were not from other planets - and not even metal craft.



Above: A triangle of the black 'dots' photographed over Cradle Hill. Below: An object, resembling a barn or something, that was not seen at the time.



He was disheartened by this and remarked that if my photograph came out and showed a bar of white light, then he would not wish to see it. He saw a metal machine flying over Warminster, and if that wasn't to show on the photograph, then he would doubt his own mind. He insisted that he saw a metal craft and the camera had to show the same thing.

I must, in rounding up, apologise for the condition of the photographs. It has been ten years since they were taken, and not ever expecting anyone to take an interest in them (they are not the world's greatest UFO photographs), I haven't taken the greatest care of them. I can only apologise for this again, and reiterate that the photos were not tampered with, and for the record, they were taken with a Zenit 3M manual camera, using settings as suggested on the film.

There ends Bob Boyd's summary of his experiences and views, which relate a very interesting sequence of events, yet there is a difference. It is not often that a UFO witness actually sees a 'solid metallic' UFO and at the same time realises that it is not really there. It would be appreciated if readers were to send in their own thoughts on this case, as mentioned at the beginning of this article. Finally, I must point out that this whole saga started out by my stating that Warminster was never really a UFO Mecca. Perhaps Bob has reiterated that, in testifying that the UFOs he saw were personal to him and those around him - and not independent real spaceships flying about the Wiltshire sky. Any comments?

IN DEFENCE OF EARTH LIGHTS PAUL DEVEREUX

I would like to respond to Stuart Campbell's axe-grinding, highly subjective "review" of my book EARTH LIGHTS (PROBS REPORT, Vol 3, No 4). Mr Campbell has already 'had a go' at me in New Scientist where he attacked my book even though it had not been mentioned in the pages of that journal. I hope in this instance I may be allowed to challenge Mr Campbell's ill-disguised truculence. If I may take his points paragraph by paragraph before making any general comment.

Campbell states that Paul McCartney who assisted me with the geological aspects of the book is an amateur. This is a professional libel and I want it publicly withdrawn. McCartney has a degree in Geochemistry from London University and is currently being sought to produce text book material (and it is clear Mr Campbell place great store in text books). McCartney was studying electrical properties of certain ore bodies back in the early 1970s therefore he was an ideal co-researcher. I do indeed state that epicentre data is more comprehensive than simply surface fault information. This is because such seismic incidents reveal the probable presence of overlaid faulting. But it is still the faulting which counts. That Warrminster should have the only two local surface faults going right through it in the middle of stable chalk country is a factor only a dolt would dismiss. And, just for the record, we DID produce a fault overlay for the epicentre map of England and Wales, but it seems to have gone missing on the print room floor.

I certainly did point out the lack of correlation between our sample England and Wales UFO/epicentre data in the north Pennine area. I never said it was insignificant, I was just explaining how samples cannot be comprehensive. In any case, Jenny Randles informed me after the book's publication that the BIFORA archives were very incomplete regarding that area. Her forthcoming book (see Book Review section - 22) clearly demonstrates a geological correlation with unexplained atmospheric phenomena in the area, I understand. So what exactly is your problem, Mr Campbell?

Campbell's comments on the Outer Hebrides map in EARTH LIGHTS (EL) is willful misrepresentation. The first thing that has to be said is that the whole chain of islands are upthrust on the west side of the major Minch Fault. Of the 18 recorded circles on the islands, 8, the Callanish group, cluster about in very close proximity of one of the few areas of surface faulting on the islands. This clustering is marked, and Campbell's statement makes me doubt his intellectual integrity. Of the other 9 circles on the islands, one is wedged between the major anticlinal axis and the Major Thrust on Lewis; one is on a granitic intrusion; one is on a granitic intrusion and close to the other occurrence of surface faulting in the islands; one sits on the Major Thrust where it passes through the island of Berneray; one sits close to the Major Thrust at the north end of North Uist; two are located within the close vicinity of the major synclinal axis on North Uist; the remaining three circles, all on North Uist, are less clearly related to major geological factors, but even so parallel the direction of the Major Thrust and the Minch Fault. (Please note that granite intrusion overlays were missing from review copies of EL).

I clearly mention the population problem with regard to UFO reports, that is why we took a few steps toward mitigating the problem in our England and Wales sample maps. In Leicestershire, to which Campbell refers in his fifth paragraph, our seismic and abnormal meteorological event data were collected from a 300-400 year period, in which time the county population showed a drift from the agricultural east to the more industrial centre west. There certainly is an increase of sightings of UFOs in Leicestershire area which must be attributed to the greater density of population in the area, but it should nevertheless be noted that the city of Leicester is tightly wedged between two of the three locally important surface

faults in the county. It is therefore not so easy to separate the wheat from the chaff in this case. In any case, while many reports do emanate from the Leicester, Hinckley and Loughborough areas, many also come from on Charnwood itself which does not have a high population. On the other hand, few reports emanate from Melton Mowbray, one of the county's major towns. So while population is a factor, it cannot be given as a reason for dismissing the obvious tectonic relationship with UFOs and abnormal meteorology in Leicestershire.

I made no major claim about stone circles and thunderstorm activity - but what we plotted was accurate from the meteorological data at our disposal (there is no absolute, "frozen" distribution map of thunderstorm day activity in Britain). On that data, only two circles out of hundreds fall within the high thunderstorm frequency areas (a third point marked in the London area on this map, fig. 15, is a printer's error).

It is true that there is almost 100% correlation between stone circle distribution and that of ancient, surface-fissured pre-Armerican rock outcrops. There may have been circles in East Anglia (a few would be expected on the earth lights thesis as there has been epicentre activity there) but there can be no doubt that had there been megalith building anywhere near as intensive as in the west and north there would be more remains to see today. As evidence for this, the north Kent palaeolithic stone monuments survive in an area as subject to invasion and urbanisation as anywhere else in the east and south. That much of the north Kent material has been lost I do not doubt, but the point is enough survives to show it had been a megalithic centre. The correlation between stone circles and ancient rocks is unquestionable. Only its interpretation is open to argument. Archaeologists say simply that it was the availability of rocks, while I claim that there is more to it than that.

I'll accept Campbell's correction regarding the solar cycle. It is just that two scientists informed me that the peak to peak cycle was around 22 rather than around 11 years, which I had been informed was peak to trough.

I'm interested to hear Stuart Campbell's claim that the submerged sites in Loch Ness are 19th Century rubble. I am quite happy if this has been shown to be the case. My data came from one of the archaeologists who worked on the 1977 Loch Ness expedition to study the submerged features.

Regarding the lack of megalithic sites actually on the inner slopes of the Great Glen Fault, this I could understand considering the steepness of the terrain. There is no doubt, however, that certain megalithic sites do cluster towards the vicinity of the fault, particularly at its NE and SW extremities.

Campbell attacks my comments regarding the mystery of the vitrified forts. In this he is hopelessly out of order. The text book notion he brandishes went out with the Dodo. Actual tests to show how burning wood could generate the enormous heat necessary to melt rock have not supported the burning wooden interlacing theory (which is archaeological and non-technical - a guess in other words). A couple of years ago, moreover, archaeologists DID try to melt rock on a Scottish mountain by bringing up truckloads of timber and stacking it round a cairn of stones and burning the cairn for days on end. At the completion of the experiment, all the archaeologists had were a pile of hot rocks. In the centre of the pile there was some clinker, enough to cover the palm of the hand. As the archaeologist said at the time, you'd need half the timber in Scotland to vitrify just one pile of stones. One of the most impressive vitrified sites is at Knockfarrell, close by Strathpeffer. The fort's melted remains stretch for something like half a mile along the hog back hill. Silica can be seen where it has run out of the stones like candle wax. Moreover, the hill itself has a crystalline crust as if it too had been subjected to enormous heat. Samples I brought back to the Institute of Archaeology showed, on examination, that the wood that

had been in contact with one or two pieces had left its grain markings behind, consistent with the wood vapourising almost instantaneously. As if both stone and wood had been subjected to sudden and intense heat. So the vitrified remains in Scotland are a genuine mystery: Mr Campbell should be advised against chasing after me with silly notions.

So the "catalogue of error" Campbell refers to in his eleventh paragraph is not so horrendous after all, is it? Not that I suppose the book would be without mistakes - few books are. I look forward to seeing how well Mr Campbell fares should he ever get his act together and publish a book! I'm glad to note, also in the eleventh paragraph, that there were some things in EL he approved of. He could have found more if he had wanted to. But Campbell goes on, parading his personal prejudices. I'm sorry he didn't like my style... the fact that the best part of 18,000 hardback copies have been sold within six months of publication suggests that not everyone agrees with him. It is difficult to express complex concepts in everyday language, but I tried.

Campbell considers that the possibility that UAPs (Unidentified Atmospheric Phenomena) may be of such a sensitive nature as to be sensitive to the PK function of human consciousness to be "ridiculous". He is entitled to that view, but it does show him to be blinkered and mentally rigid - conditions which do not lend themselves to discovery. I agree the idea is contentious, but UAPs would not have remained an enigma for so long if their explanation was absolutely mundane. If certain subjects can bend metal with "mind-power", why not affect the behaviour or form of a sensitive atmospheric phenomenon? I have one distinct advantage over Campbell - I've seen it happen. Also, aircrew witnessing 'foe fighters' reported that the lights sometimes seemed to respond to their thoughts, and this is echoed again in the same issue of PROBE REPORT in which Campbell's "review" appears: in the review of Dr Earley Rutledge's book (PROJEOT IDENTIFICATION), it is noted that the lights being studied in SE Missouri seemed to react to "the team members' individual actions and thoughts." That Rutledge considered this to show intelligence originating from the lights is the common misconception that I try so hard to counter in EL. In any case, I am, with colleagues, setting up an experiment that will hopefully demonstrate that this geopsychic interaction can occur. Our main problem is that the rock lights are so shortlived that it is a problem to register a PK response in the time.

Campbell is quite right that there are a number of printing errors in the book. I can take the blame for only a small part of these. I was never shown page-proofs, for example; overlays were missed; wrong captions were attributed to pictures, and worse. As it was the book had to be withdrawn and printed in parts - the review copies which went out were inferior copies. It was a combination of printing errors, art department errors and the fact that the editorial effort was carried out from two offices 100 miles apart! I cringe enough without Campbell stupidly attacking me for these errors.

No, I didn't put in every page number for every reference, though I did in some cases. Nevertheless, over 9 pages of more than 200 references is quite adequate, and more than many UFO books offer.

The street lamp explanation for the Jennings ball lightning photograph is by no means convincing. The light trace relating to the lamp post is 60 times greater than lateral displacement anywhere else on the photograph, and the dotted trace of light displays parallax which indicates that the camera and light source were at two points moving either towards or away from one another. In addition, there was also a lightning display in the sky, with one trace either coincidentally behind the lamppost above it (possibly a discharge streamer from the earthing ball lightning event). Lampposts, like chimney pots, would make excellent earthing points for kugelblitz. If the Jennings photo is a fake, then it is a more sophisticated one than its detractors maintain. But whether it is or not, it doesn't affect the validity of the ball lightning phenomenon itself.

And Campbell goes on to say that the dark object I witnessed in 1967 was not recognised by me as black ball

lightning. I simply recognised it as a black round shape in the sky which was unidentified - that IS the correct interpretation. What is black ball lightning? What is it composed of? How does it occur? I don't think Mr Campbell has these answers: calling a UFO a UAP doesn't answer anything. In any case, I resent him imposing his non-witness subjectivity onto my experience.

The caption to the Peter Bay frame of an unexplained moving light was taken entirely from information supplied by Mr Bay, and includes a quote if Campbell looks more closely. I took advice about the photographer of the Trinidad UFO from the Fortean Picture Library who supplied the photo and THEY advised the "anon" attribution.

It is sheer bilge for Campbell to refer to my summary of the UFO pageant as padding. Other reviewers have praised me for giving that overview. If he found my essay on prehistoric monuments tedious then I am sorry for him. I quite agree that I could have spent more time attacking alternative UFO theories, but there are limitations to space in a book and I did well to put in as much as I did. I wonder how well Mr Campbell would cope with the problems of writing a book, where the decisions (and errors) are not all one's own?

Then we come to Campbell's final paragraph. This is where the sparks of his axe-grinding really show through. We all know Campbell has his own pet theories, and whenever he gets it sufficiently together to present a full account of them we can assess how well he does. As it stands, EL gave a good representation of Campbell's theories, and I'm sorry we could only half agree with them: that was because, as they stand, they are only half cooked. They do not measure up to the earth lights thesis at the present time.

For Campbell to so readily dismiss the geological connection with UFOs is unscientific to the point of being scandalous. It is noticeable that in his "review" he makes no mention of earthquake lights (EQL) or mountain peak discharge (MPD). In these cases it is a FACT that geological factors do go into the production of currently unidentified atmospheric phenomena, some of which are indistinguishable from reports of UFOs. My book suggests that UFOs may well be part of this family of phenomena and provides a good deal of evidence to back that suggestion. Of course, I can't totally PROVE the case, as I say in the book quite clearly, but NOBODY has proved anything about UFOs, and EL is more testable than most ufological offerings.

Campbell argues that rocks have to be broken and not merely stressed to produce lights. This is wrong. For a start, pressure on crystalline rocks will produce piezoelectricity without fracturing being necessary. While I am far from convinced that piezoelectricity is the only mechanism involved with UAP production, it may be one of the elements and so this fact should be noted to counteract Campbell's waywardness. Moreover, McCartney and I are currently producing enormous photon-emission from certain rocks with the application of very small pressures indeed. I think there is an atmospheric element involved with the UAP event, and the geology is only one section of the orchestration. We also have evidence to show that certain North American Indian shamans used to produce lights - a "magic fire" - from rocks as part of their rituals. It is a "magical technology" McCartney and I are currently studying.

Finally, EL presents a possible way in which lights are formed by streamer discharge from the ground, the nearest anyone had got to a descriptive genesis of UAPs. It is to be noted that this reconstruction was not some sort of notion by me, but is assembled solely from eye-witness accounts, witnesses separated by both time and space. Anyone valuing eyewitness material in ufology - and who does without it? - will have to face the fact that lights of the UFO variety have been seen emerging from the ground. I know it is a bitter pill for some, but sooner or later they are going to have to swallow it. UAPs are unquestionably produced by factors which involve geology; the only question which remains is whether ALL UAPs have this connection, or whether the geological factor accounts for only some of them.



THE WARMINSTER CASEBOOK

IAN MRZYCLOD

It seems a long time ago that I first made reference to new series that was to start in PROBE REPORT. Indeed, during that long gap, I have endeavoured to include an instalment each time an issue has been typed up, but space restricted me. However, this time I have succeeded (although only just) because of the size reduction and here at last is instalment 1 of the WARMINSTER CASEBOOK.

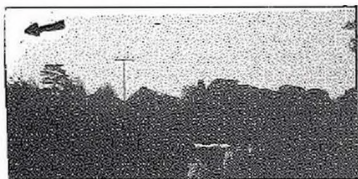
Probably the most controversial area of the Warminster UFO saga is that of photographs. Over the years there have literally been hundreds put forward in various books and magazines, all testifying towards Warminster having UFOs. Some photographs have proven intriguing, and have defied explanation, but there were also the huge number that were nothing but deliberate hoaxes. Others were innocent misidentifications, but the vast majority were always at best dubious, and at worst downright fakes. Without any serious investigation being carried out in Warminster, everyone was free to run amok and produce photographs, tales of dramatic sightings, and alleged physical evidence without any level of critical analysis being brought in. It was inevitable that over the years people would turn their backs on Warminster and follow up investigations elsewhere.

So it came as quite a shock when I was reading MAGIC SAUCER issue 14 (March/April 1981, page 6). Under the heading 'Warminster News', written by Arthur Shuttlewood, was a paragraph which read as follows: "A farmer three miles out, running a 50 acre holding, took some colour film (still, not cine) of a prize cow in a field. The weather was bright, it was day time, the sky was clear blue. When the film was developed, all came out well, but in the sky above the meadow were two perfect UFO discs, definite and beyond doubt. (My underlining - IM). The 40 year-old farmer is giving me the negatives so I hope to propogate a scoop in U.S. colour magazines interested in cosmic truth..."

I wrote to Arthur Shuttlewood and asked if a set of prints could be made available to PROBE so that they could be examined. A reply was received on 25th April 1981 informing me that a set of prints would be ready in about a week, but Shuttlewood's main interest at that moment in time was to push the colour prints to all agencies in the world using colour film. I was also



Section of one of the photographs taken by the farmer. The alleged UFO is arrowed. The third photograph was almost identical to this one.



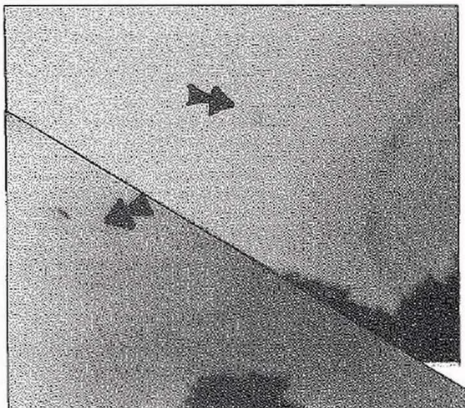
Section of a second photograph. This time, there are supposed to be 'several' (according to the narrative on the reverse of the print) in the upper left corner.

asked to see if the local BBC and ITV studios would take copies for their news spots. Nothing was done in this area, and wouldn't be until the photographs had been seen by PROBE. 2nd May saw an envelope arrive, containing the three prints and a covering letter from Arthur. It explained how the farmer photographed some strange objects without realising it, and when the slides were projected, the UFOs were clearly seen. The prints were taken from these transparencies.

There was immediate disappointment, although not surprise, when the prints were looked at. Sure enough, there were small images where Shuttlewood said they could be found, but to us they were nothing other than developing faults. Shuttlewood admitted he was himself disappointed, as this was the first time he had seen them. It was obvious that his excitement as displayed in MAGIC SAUCER was somewhat premature. Nevertheless, he still asked me to provide him with enlargements of the interesting areas of the prints, and he was still attempting to interest some colour magazines and the DAILY MIRROR.

Enlargements were done, and they merely confirmed that the images were indeed nothing more than flaws. I wrote to Shuttlewood informing him so, and suggested that he write to MAGIC SAUCER and put the picture straight. A reply did come back from him eventually in which he reluctantly agreed with our findings, and he also mentioned that the DAILY MIRROR had returned their set with similar comments. He informed PROBE that he was dropping the case and would not mention it further. Another letter from myself was sent, reminding him to write to MAGIC SAUCER, and to all the others he had told of the photographs, although he never replied to this. Nothing ever appeared in MAGIC SAUCER either to repudiate his earlier claims.

Although perhaps insignificant in importance, this nevertheless clearly demonstrates how UFO sightings and photograph stories were manufactured in Warminster through the over-eagerness and irrational behaviour of Shuttlewood and his colleagues. It is fair to say that MAGIC SAUCER was not reaching the public en masse, but the principle is there. He was just not interested in setting the record straight, and for some, the definite and beyond doubt UFOs still existed. The incident was also being written up for a book that was due out in 1982, but for some reason it never appeared. Timothy Green Beckley of the USA was to publish it. Shuttlewood's reluctance to retract his earlier claims certainly gives an insight into the formulation of many of the incidences in his six books and many articles elsewhere, and his actions in this relatively minor case do, I feel, have a very significant bearing on the Warminster mythos.



Enlargement shows nothing but a typical developing flaw on one, and where some dust adhered itself to the slide on the second.



BOOK REVIEWS

THE PENNINE UFO MYSTERY, by Jenny Randles. Granada paperback, 240 pp, illustrated, £1.50. This is a very difficult book to review, as in summarising the contents, the views and theories have to be mentioned. In this case, **THE PENNINE UFO MYSTERY** reads like a detective thriller, building up a case piece by piece, dropping clues into the text, and ending up with the culprit. Of course, this work is not fiction, but a catalogue of a series of UFO events that took place in the Pennines of the north of England. These events seemingly started with sightings of the 'mystery helicopter' in 1973-74, involved the famed Tom Gordon Zigmund Adamski 'UFO death' and the P.C. Alan Godfrey 'UFO abduction' of 1980, and appear to have carried right on up to the present day. The brief case histories are fascinating, and the more in-depth investigations into such cases as the Godfrey case are educating. Much of this work is attributable to the Manchester UFO Research Association (MUPORA) and to representatives of other UFO organisations who did a great deal of research and investigation over the years to enable such an analysis of this 'window area' to be carried out. Diligent research through many UFO case files gradually built up an intriguing casebook of UFO sightings in the Pennine area, that beforehand had not seemed connected. So the detective story builds up as the reader goes along, seeing how these cases seem to fall into certain patterns that lead to various options at the end of the book. **THE PENNINE UFO MYSTERY** however, doesn't have a clear-cut answer at the end.

This purely depends on the interpretation of the events, and what they all mean to those concerned and those investigating. The members of MUPORA (which include the author) are all given the opportunity of airing their own views on the Pennine mystery. Here, there is a definite difference of opinion, easily illustrated by the views of Harry Harris as opposed to those of Jenny Randles. Harris, along with Mike Sacks is convinced that alien intelligence is involved, constructing and flying nuts and bolts machines and flying here to watch us. The paragraph that I find very amusing here reads; "Speaking as a lawyer, it is my considered opinion that the evidence which has come to light is such that there is a prima facie case that the UFO is a nuts and bolts vehicle of unknown origin; designed, built and also piloted by beings of unknown origin." As far as I am concerned, Harris could be the Lord Chief Justice, and his opinion would be just as meaningless. Why on earth a legal practice should vindicate personal beliefs is beyond me. It also causes a little worry that someone so strongly opinionated should be actively investigating.

Jenny Randles offers a theory that is fascinating, yet more plausible than any of the others. Most of the UFO events appear to fall into the various patterns, and there are cases, not necessarily connected with the Pennine mystery, geographically or otherwise, that have the hallmarks of the Pennine cases. These similarities have previously gone unnoticed, but strangely enough, rethinking these old cases with a new light, certainly makes the theory possible. What is that theory? Well, to do it justice needs far more space than allowed here, and it would also spoil the detective fun. Mind you, in this particular case, the villain still has not been caught and doesn't look in any immediate danger of being so.

IM

INFO THE UNKNOWN, edited by Will Bradbury. Published by The Reader's Digest Association. 11" x 8 1/2" hardcover. 352 pp, illustrated with photographs and drawings, the vast majority in full colour. I very much like these books, as they cover a vast array of topics, and do it well given the space allowed. **INFO THE UNKNOWN** is no exception, and this marvellously illustrated book is a pleasure to read. It covers UFOs under the heading of 'Enigma of UFOs'. and packs a great deal into the 20 or

so pages allocated. The Frederick Valentich pilot disappearance case is featured together with the Kaikoura lights, giving reference to the work carried out by Dr Bruce Macabee in the USA. There are sections on natural explanations for UFO sightings, witness perception of what he sees, the Ancient Astronaut theory, WIGs, a section on photographs, landing traces and several other areas of UFO study. It is well informed, although necessarily brief in some parts to mainly fit everything in.

Of course, UFOs are just one topic featured in **INFO THE UNKNOWN** which also allows space to discuss Woodoo, the Loch Ness Monster, Horoscopes, Charles Fort, Ghosts, ESP and other psychic abilities, all which are instructive and interesting, even if they are not one's chosen particular interest. Such compendiums, (for want of another word) are extremely popular, and this is so far one of the best available. The price favours comparatively well against other hardcover books as well, being only £12.95. The cost of most hardcover books nowadays extends well into the £8 - £9 mark, and they do not offer as much diversity and value for money, if even in terms of page quantity and full colour illustrations.

INFO THE UNKNOWN is a sound buy, and will obviously attract the type of reader who is interested in all facets of the unknown. IM.

THE GREEN STONE by Graham Phillips and Martin Keatman, published by Neville Spearman. Hardcover, 224 pp, £6.95, illustrated. **THE SWORD AND THE STONE**, by Andrew Collins. Published by the author under The Supernaturalist series, number 2. 57 pp, illustrated. £1.50 from author. These two publications will be dealt with together since they cover the same subject matter. The latter is actually a booklet and having appeared some time before **THE GREEN STONE** is part of the **SUPERNATURALIST** series. Both publications chronicle an extraordinary saga which took place in the Midlands in late 1979, and **THE GREEN STONE** deals as well with subsequent events that took place as late as 1981. These events began with psychic messages received by Graham Phillips, emanating from a source calling itself 'Joanna', coupled with other messages, impressions and dreams received by Marion and Gaynor Sunderland (See **ALLEN CONTACT**). These psychic messages led those involved on a bizarre psychic treasure-hunt to recover a lost green jewel-like stone and a sword bearing the coat-of-arms of Mary Queen of Scots. This stone had, it seems, belonged to the heretical Egyptian pharaoh Akheraten, who rebelled against the corrupt priesthood of Amen and instituted a monotheistic religion in Egypt based on the worship of the sun-disk, the Aten.

After the fall of Akheraten and his régime, refugees brought the stone to Britain where it was used by a Celtic warrior-queen named Gwevareugh and her followers, who occupied territory in what is now Staffordshire. These initiates, by using the occult powers of the stone, attained a higher level of consciousness and rediscovered the secrets of the then-defunct megalithic culture. This queen Gwevareugh's achievements had been passed down from generation to generation and had given rise to the legend of Queen Guinevere, although the Arthurian legend had stemmed from a later period.

Add to this the involvement of the Knights Templars, the Gunpowder Plot, Mary Queen of Scots (who had possession of the stone and named it the Meonia Stone) and an illegal Catholic militia, and you have all the ingredients for a first-class historical thriller. What transpires is a race-against-time hunt across country for the ancient stone, which is eventually recovered after a trek with a witch coven hot on their tails.

THE GREEN STONE describes the subsequent events, namely the 'recharging' of the Green Stone by means of the 'Nine Lights of Knowledge', psychic powers encapsulated by the Egyptian initiates at certain megalithic sites, and the apocalyptic finale of the story is its use by certain members of the group to defeat the evil power once and for all. An interesting sideline to the story is the description of the downfall in the nineteenth century of the last group of initiates, named the Order of Meonia, by the evil power working through a black magician named John Leing. As Jenny Randles states in her excellent introduction to THE GREEN STONE, it is very easy to dismiss such a tale as nonsense and sweep it under the carpet. Certainly both publications have received much criticism from reviewers who do not know the persons involved in the story, and this also is easy - to easy - to do.

I myself have witnessed the Andy Collins/Graham Phillips group in action and can confirm that when these people get going, things do happen. There is no doubt in my mind that certain people do have pronounced psychic abilities and those people include Collins, Phillips and Marion and Gaynor Sanderland. No amount of psychological-sociological waffle can alter that fact, however hard we may try. Certainly my enquiries have left me in no doubt that the artefacts described were found, and whatever their origin it was certainly not in the minds of those involved. Read both publications and dismiss them if you will, or regard the story as a hoax, but before you do, read Jenny Randles' introduction to THE GREEN STONE and think about her words, for they merit close examination. Finally, a personal thought: are the events described in these two publications any more bizarre and unbelievable than those described in both the Old and New Testaments, in which millions of Christians believe? Make your own decision, but bear in mind Jenny Randles' words that denial without proof is "simply... an admission of defeat by the twin-horned army of prejudice and belief."

GEOFF BIRD.

FOOTNOTE: Although not reviewed by your editor, I feel I should butt in and remark on two aspects of the whole green stone saga which ask people to stretch their belief to the limit. Firstly there is the aspect of the existence of the artefacts themselves. So few people claim to have actually seen them, yet many swear by their existence and their power. Why, if this is more-or-less currently happening, are there not more people who can claim to have openly seen the Stone? Secondly, the cover of THE GREEN STONE shows an artist's impression of the Green Stone, because it is alleged, for unknown reasons, that the actual stone itself could not be successfully photographed. This must cast doubt on the existence of such a stone, because surely someone would have looked into such a scientific anomaly? Are Neville Spearman not concerned with this? I should like to see some clarification on these points before any judgement is made on the subject matter of the two books.

IM.

THE RUNNING WELL MYSTERY, by Andrew Collins, published by the author. 82 pp, illustrated. £1.85. This fascinating booklet, issue 3 of the SUPERNATURALIST series, describes research by Collins and the 'Earthquest' group into the folklore and legends of the Essex parish of Runwell, reputedly one of the most haunted villages in the county. One important clue was the name of the village, which may derive from old English 'Run' or tree-trunk, or 'Rune', a secret or mystery. Parish legends included that of the Devil's Claw, which described how Satan had pursued an evil priest and left his claw-mark in the south door of the church.

Tradition spoke of a well from which the village derived its name, and research into the ecclesiastical history of Runwell brought to light a manuscript written by a former vicar which led to the discovery of the old well, the

legend of the mysterious Runwell Cross - a diamond with a circle in each of its four sides - and much more. Using both research and psychic methods, the mystery of Runwell was apparently solved, having to do with the landscape geometry of the area. This booklet shows what can be accomplished by a dedicated and motivated group, and is well worth the money. Earthquest is setting an example others would do well to emulate.

GEOFF BIRD.

UFOs: EVIDENCE FOR THE REALITY... by William L. Moore and Stanton T. Friedman. Published by William L. Moore Publications & Research, POBX 1845, Prescott, AZ 86302, USA. Price, US \$ 6.50 or £4.00 by surface - US \$ 8.00 or £5.00 by Air Mail. 37 pp. large-format A4, stapled. Another publication from William Moore, who keeps turning out these useful and often fascinating documents, although this one seems to tread over so much old ground in the first half that there appears to be nothing new to offer. We are told of the possibilities of life forming on other planets, as the chemical reactions that took place here on Earth may not be unique to us. We are also warned once again how the governments of the world, although in this case the authors are aiming their flak at the US Government, are very capable of keeping secrets from us all. In this case we are talking about proof that UFOs exist and that they have been coming here for a long time. There is strong, although probably quite legitimate, criticism of Project Blue Book for being nothing more than a public relations cover-up operation, although unwittingly at that.

Bringing the situations up to date, the authors focus on NORAD and the Freedom of Information Act, and the efforts to secure such documents for public viewing. It is interesting to note that NORAD/ADC (Aerospace Defence Command) requested a search fee of \$354,656.00 for certain documents, thus supporting the allegations that the US Government will not release the important documents which could change the whole aspect of the public's knowledge of UFOs. This document, EVIDENCE FOR THE REALITY... does cater more for those students who particularly research the cover-up theories, although it is an enjoyable read for any ufologist.

IM

William L. Moore publications & Research issue a list detailing all the currently available publications for sale. The list includes some interesting documents, such as the Kal Korff exposé of the Pleiades contact case, and the investigation into the famous McMinnville photos that was conducted by Dr Bruce Maccabee (which formed part of his lecture at the 2nd International UFO Congress in London, 1981, staged by BUFORA). If anyone requires a list, please enquire to POBX 1845, Prescott, AZ 86302, USA.

Books received this quarter, but not reviewed for lack of space. CORGI books have published a speculative book entitled A SECRET HISTORY OF TIME TO COME, a tale which offers a pessimistic vision of the distant future. A novel, written by Robie Macaulay, is available at most book stores for £1.95. 219 pages, paperback. There has also been an influx of science fiction works, notably featuring the work of Alan Dean Foster, well-known for his novelisation of the film ALIEN, and also for STAR TREK THE MOVIE. The three New English Library books are: ORPHAN STAR, THE TAR-AIYH KRANG, and NOR CRYSTAL TEARS. Coronet (Hodder & Stoughton) have issued GALACTIC EFFECTUATOR by Jack Vance. Whereas Corgi have also published another Anne McCaffrey novel (not about dragons) called THE CRYSTAL SINGER and RADIX, a large size paperback novel of fantasy.

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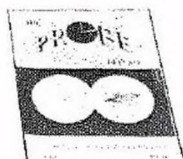
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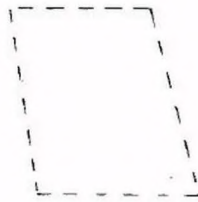
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