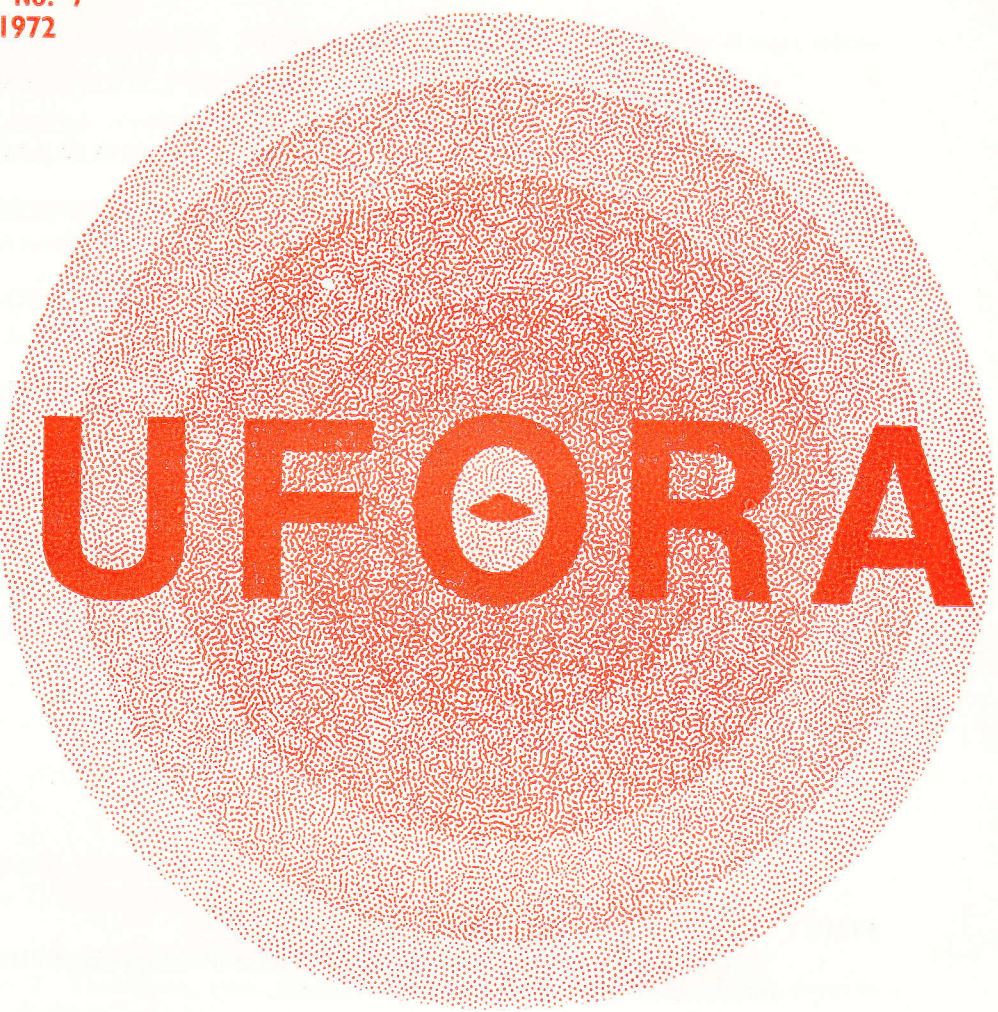


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Summer 1972



BUFORA

JOURNAL

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THE BUFORA JOURNAL

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EDITORIAL

A curious duality attaches to UFO sightings. Sometimes the objects seen seem to be material. They impact on radar screens and leave marks on the ground when they land. At other times they appear evanescent, even ghostly, fitter for the attentions of the psychical researcher than for those of the conventional scientist.

Radiation behaves sometimes like a shower of discrete particles and at other times like a succession of waves. Scientists are thus obliged to think of it in whatever terms happen to be applicable to its behaviour in the course of a given experiment. I would suggest that a like exercise of Orwellian "doublethink" may be necessary in dealing with the elusive UFO.

Perhaps the UFO is neither a material nor a psychical creation but something between the two.

Elsewhere in this issue Betty Wood suggests that certain phenomena may occur because:

" . . . the great collective unconscious of the world is stirring up these elemental forces and causing phenomena particular to the local mythology in which they appear."

I think Betty may be on the verge of a great truth.

Suppose that an unknown Something is currently agitating the collective unconscious, the *anima mundi* as the ancients called it. Imagine that this agitation is giving rise to a spate of what we can only describe as materialisations, fleeting as to duration but solid-seeming enough during the period of their manifestation in the physical realm.

Given as much, is it not logical to assume that the mimetic tendency of the collective unconscious will present apparitions which will be a curious blend of space-age myths with earlier mythologies?

Look at the so-called "operator" cases. We have sophisticated spacecraft which sometimes embody strangely primitive features, such as exhaust pipes and even paddles. From them emerge figures clad in astronaut garb, but again often with incongruous trimmings. In broad outline, when a UFO lands within sight of urban dwellers it will be crewed by beings whose appearance and actions might commend them to followers of the extra-terrestrial hypothesis of Keyhoe and his school. When the recipients of a UFO visitation are peasants or primitives, however, they are often presented with a charade which has many of the characteristics of a working collaboration between Arthur C. Clarke and Hans Christian Andersen.

Go on and apply this line of reasoning to contactee tales, M.I.B. cases and the like. The idea of temporary materialisations out of the collective unconscious, the common psyche of humanity, fits the facts of the UFO situation like a glove.

Mysteries, of course, remain. In particular, we do not know what may be the nature of the Something which is stimulating the *anima mundi* into the present high pitch of activity. There have been UFO-like manifestations on a smaller scale throughout history. They have tended to become more numerous and obtrusive when a civilisation faced radical change or downfall.

Is this a clue to the present manifestations?

UFO-researchers will probably find it as difficult as I did to abandon the ETH or other cherished ideas and approach the enigma of the UFOs from a new direction. I would say to them that no sincere seeker ought to be hesitant about substituting new concepts which fit the evolving pattern of the facts, for old ones which do not.

It is not pleasant to be obliged to eat our words but it is sometimes unavoidable.

JOURNAL COVER COMPETITION

There was a small but colourful response to the BUFORA Journal cover competition with just over thirty separate designs received from seventeen members. The judging was performed at the Committee meeting on 3rd June, and the members were impressed by the originality of many of the entries.

After some deliberation, David J. Keepax of Bentley Heath, Solihull, Warwicks, was voted the overall winner, the first five designs he submitted being chosen for the new Journal cover. David will receive a copy of Dr. J. Allen Hynek's new book, "The UFO Experience."

Other designs highly commended were those of R. J. Nash, Sheila Sullivan and M. F. Pace. The most original and ingenious were the entries submitted by S. J. Dodds.

The Committee would like to take this opportunity of thanking all those members who sent in cover designs.

A.R.P.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1972

In accordance with the provisions of Article 8(d) of the Constitution of BUFORA, preliminary notification is given herewith that the Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held on Saturday, October 7th, 1972, at 6 p.m., at the Kensington Central Library.

Nominations for the offices of President, Vice-Presidents, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, also for the eight elective remaining seats on the National Executive Committee, should reach the Hon. Secretary in writing not later than Saturday, August 26th, 1972. Resolutions to be debated at the A.G.M. should reach the Hon. Secretary by that date.

Only members of the Association in good standing, i.e. in possession of a valid membership card, are entitled to be present and vote at the A.G.M.

THE SCORITON CASE

Controversy continues to rage in UFO-research circles concerning the enigmatic 'contact' case centred around the late Mr. E. A. Bryant of Scoriton in Devon.

My friends Eileen Buckle and Norman Oliver, both well-known and competent investigators of UFO phenomena, studied the affair in depth. The result was a book, "The Scoriton Mystery," published in 1967 by Miss Buckle, in which, although no firm conclusions about the case were stated, the general trend was favourable to the credibility of Bryant.

Later, in 1968, following Bryant's death from a brain tumour on June 24th, 1967 and in the light of fresh information, Mr. Oliver published a booklet, "Sequel to Scoriton," in which he virtually abandoned all belief in the story, dismissing it as a hoax by Bryant.

BUFORA commissioned the late Eric Biddle, a researcher of great experience, to comment on the case, providing him with all available information. His report is appended. It has previously been published elsewhere but is now made directly available to all BUFORA members.

For my own part, I never at any time considered accepting the report at face value. However, following correspondence with Bryant and others and in the light of developments in the UFO field, I incline to Eric Biddle's conclusion rather than to the view that Scoriton was a vulgar hoax.

—EDITOR.

THE SCORITON CASE. Comments by ERIC BIDDLE.

A vast amount of time and labour has been given by Miss Eileen Buckle and Mr. Norman Oliver in their joint investigation of the Scoriton Case and by Miss Buckle in particular to the book which is mainly her work.

There is one refreshing difference between the Bryant case and others of its kind—no one has sought to turn it to financial profit or personal glory, although there are indications that had he lived, Bryant might eventually have followed up the idea that he had a "message" of great importance for the world (see p.58). These messages, to my somewhat cynical way of thinking, always suggest that there is something phoney about a case.

The Bryant "contact", so far as I can see, left behind no material traces. Bryant himself said that the scorching of the hedges and trees had nothing to do with the saucer and the phial, with its classical Greek message, certainly proves nothing—even less than the metal pieces alleged to have come from the wreckage of Capt. Mantell's plane.

It is probably unwise to judge any alleged supernatural or off-beat occurrence by its antecedent probability or improbability. Even so, there are limits and we should clearly distinguish between two things:—

- (1) Condemnation of something because we have never known it to happen
and
- (2) Rejection of something because it is in flagrant contradiction with what seem to be soundly established facts (as distinct from opinions).

In the Scoriton case, the alleged "space beings" claimed to come from Venus. They were of more or less human appearance, despite the grave slip of giving two of them only four fingers and no thumbs. They were able, albeit with some slight initial difficulty, to breathe our atmosphere. I have before me cuttings from "The Times" of 19/10/67 regarding the information sent back by the Russian Venus probe. There are no soothing messages from "space brothers" here but hard facts—the atmospheric pressure at the surface of Venus is about 15 times that of our own atmosphere at sea level. The Venusian atmosphere consists mainly of carbon dioxide, with oxygen and water vapour accounting for only about 1.5%, a very high temperature, no radiation belt such as Earth's Van Allen belt and only a weak, though definite, magnetic field. The American Mariner-V gave much the same reports.

Even if these results are not completely correct in every detail, it seems to me that they should suffice to kill, once and for all, the myth of the "Venusian Brothers" (Not that they will, of course: the "will to believe" is proof against any such irritating trifles as facts!)

The episode of the gown seen by Bryant in the spaceship seems to me of no evidential value, apart from the detail that Adamski described it as "delicate blue" and Bryant as "purple." Surely the two are easily distinguishable. But Adamski's second book (*Inside the Spaceships*) was available in this country at any rate by about 1955 or 1956 and I would ask which is more probable—that Bryant saw the book and read at any rate part of it, and thus got the idea of the gown, even if in a slightly inaccurate form or that Adamski's fantastic story of the gathering on Saturn has the slightest basis of fact!

Regarding the reference to "Karma" it was established that Bryant had possessed several occult books (though unfortunately the titles do not seem to be known) and it is a fair assumption to make that somewhere in these there would be a reference to Karma.

I have nothing to say against the theory of reincarnation, which may well be true, but the way the alleged Adamski was reincarnated the day after his death seems, to say the least, far-fetched and, supposing he really was there, it would seem much more akin to a case of "possession" or, to use the spiritualist term, "control." And if he could speak English, why could he not get his former name right? Surely it is just as easy to say "Adamski" as "Yamski." Or could it be that in a hasty reading of Adamski's book Bryant got the name mixed?

It is not without interest that Desmond Leslie felt obliged to reject this alleged return of Adamski. When all is said and done, Leslie knew Adamski as well as most people did.

However, these points are of no particular interest or importance unless one is prepared to accept the contact story at its face value.

Clearly one is justified in *not* taking it at face value when it is shown, as is unfortunately the case, that the information given by Bryant about himself was palpably and grossly incorrect.

Mr. Norman Oliver's summarised Report of 1/7/67 and his article in SPACE-LINK of December 1967, cover very adequately and succinctly points which I had in mind to raise and there is nothing to be gained by my reiterating these, especially as I can only agree with all he has said.

I cannot help feeling that to me the whole story reads too much like a tale from the Arabian Nights—one half expects to see Ali Baba or Sinbad the Sailor come out of the saucer.

What are we to conclude?

(1) We can take the story as true in the way that Bryant told it—that he had a visit from benevolent beings who would eventually use him as the vehicle for the disclosure of “revelations” destined to be of great importance to the world.

or

(2) We can say that Bryant was a fraud pure and simple and that he made up the whole story after reading some UFO literature and, possibly, after a genuine UFO sighting.

I myself do not believe that either of these possibilities is correct.

or

(3) As we know now that Bryant was suffering from a brain tumour, we can accept the view that his alleged experience was hallucinatory. I prefer to leave discussion of this theory to medical men interested in UFOs, such as Dr. Doel or Dr. Finch.

or

(4) We can say that the whole of Bryant's experience was hallucinatory in the sense that it was the result of hypnotic influence exercised by some external intelligence(s)—whether connected with UFOs or not—for some purpose of their own. We can only conjecture what that purpose might be. But it is at least possible that it may be a rather clumsy attempt to lull us into a false sense of security as to the real eventual aims of the UFO entities. I should very much like to know what my old friend the late Harold T. Wilkins would have said about this case. (Though I have a shrewd idea!)

I have offered no comment on the various psychic episodes narrated in Miss Buckle's book. This is not through lack of interest (such things have interested me for half a century) but because I cannot see that they have any significant bearing on the truth or otherwise of Bryant's story.

I must express my appreciation of the welcome which I received from Mr. Oliver when I visited him at the end of last October and of the opportunity afforded me of hearing certain of the tapes, not to mention first-hand information about the case. I only regret that I did not have the chance of meeting Miss Buckle as well.

Though a negative conclusion in the Bryant case seems to me inevitable, I wish to record my own opinion that this does not in the least detract from the enthusiasm, devotion and time offered by the two investigators concerned in this case.

Ludlow, 12th January, 1968.

—ERIC BIDDLE.

ASSOCIATION VIEWPOINT

Now that we have no meetings until September, there stretches ahead that rather barren period known as "summer," which so far does not appear particularly promising from either the weather or UFO activity standpoint. However, barren periods at least present a challenge to get out and do something—so it is to be hoped that BUFORA members will be carrying out their own private sky watches, even if not actually participating in the annual pilgrimage to Warminster and other UFO hotspots. Meanwhile, the Executive Committee intends to implement some of the plans formed earlier in the year and will be busy collating and evaluating UFO data; it is also hoped to revisit the scenes of old contact stories and bring up-to-date the subsequent experiences and opinions of the witnesses.

* * *

Several times so far this year it has been declared on T.V. and in newspapers that the search for life in other solar systems is now "respectable." Of course, it is definitely not respectable to consider that they may have visited us! What illogical beings we humans are. In the interim, it is amusing, if ironic, to note that a row has blown up over the drawing of a man and woman engraved on America's Pioneer 10, which will take 80,000 years to reach the nearest star. There have been complaints that the drawings are obscene; that they are racist because they have been portrayed as white; and even Women's Lib have had a go because the woman was drawn smaller than the man. Why don't these petty-minded folk go out one night and look at the stars? If they consider the implications of such objects as radio comets, which are 500,000 light years long with galaxies in their heads, perhaps this will help them get things in perspective. After all, who in outer space will care a hoot whether we are black, white, or striped? And by the time it reaches them, we won't, either.

* * *

For those who are veering away from the E.T.V. theory and pursuing (to my mind) more mundane phenomena such as Men in Black, I suggest they read "A Separate Reality" by Carlos Castaneda. It may contain at least a partial explanation of the M.I.B. phenomenon and other weird UFO-presumed events. Mr. Castaneda is an American anthropologist who did a 10-year stint as apprentice to a Yaqui Indian sorcerer in Mexico.

He tells of meeting and speaking to "people who are not people"—strange forces known to local witchdoctors as "allies". These frequently appear in human form and move among human beings to all extent and purpose as one of themselves. An "ally" once overcome, could be helpful—but could equally be extremely dangerous. This seems to be a manifestation particularly connected with Mexico and South America—from whence many strange contact stories originate. For

"allies" to appear as spacemen or M.I.B's it would presumably be necessary for someone or something to conjure them up—but for what purpose? Unless, as has been suggested before, the great collective unconscious of the world is stirring up these elemental forces and causing phenomena particular to the local mythology in which they appear. It might be an interesting exercise to classify contact stories and strange encounters according to local legend and prevailing mental climate.

As a sideline, it is noteworthy that during a particularly nasty poltergeist-type event experienced by Mr. Castaneda on a remote hillside, part of the "noises off" consisted of the loud cracking of tree branches (for no obvious reason). I am told that similar activity is now taking place during skywatches at a popular UFO focal in West London. So far as one knows there are no Yaqui witchdoctors in the area—so, subject to local pranksters being responsible—it would seem that forces are stirring which could be potentially harmful. Let those who will take their tape-recorders and cameras and painstakingly record orange lights and creaking boughs—undoubtedly their research will be very useful—but I would rather look at the stars.

BETTY WOOD.

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THE UFO THAT WASN'T !

On Saturday evening, 20th May, 1972, I casually noticed a UFO through the window of my flat. Well, actually it looked like a very bright star as it was stationary and visibility was remarkably good for London. I was looking in the direction of the London GPO tower, when I saw this star, and thought to myself—Venus? —as it had only recently turned dark. On second thoughts I realised that Venus would not appear in the East at that time of night, so got out the official BUFORA binoculars and opened the window for a better look. They showed not one, but two bright lights, with a third but blue light adjacent on the left. The object continued to hover, but gradually I could see that it was moving. Incidentally, the lights appeared to be steady and not pulsating. Also they were attached to a body of some kind, which was obscured by their brightness. Eventually after 15 to 20 seconds, in which time I had chance to focus the binoculars and point out the object to a friend, the object had passed behind the GPO tower.

Now does this sound like a typical UFO report to you? I have certainly had some very similar descriptions related to me, although not necessarily in the greater London area, and have known these reports to be claimed as genuine sightings.

Well to continue, the object as expected, continued to move across the sky, now coming closer and apparently moving much faster. As it passed the tower I was now able to confirm that it was an airliner approaching Heathrow Airport with its landing lights on, although I did not actually hear the aircraft until it was passing at its closest point to me. The point of significance was that this aircraft had its landing lights ablaze at least 20 possibly 30 miles away from the airport. Anyone seeing only part of its comparatively low level flight path (if their vision was obscured by buildings, etc.) might, if not familiar with this pattern, think they had seen something genuinely unusual. I have presented this mundane piece to emphasise the need to consider mundane explanations for UFO reports before jumping to the more speculative. Also, over the years, and particularly during the Spring of 1972, there have been a fair number of "lights-in-the-sky" reports from the Walthamstow, Epping and East London areas. However, I am not so naively dogmatic to suggest that they were all aircraft landing lights.

My friend Edgar Hatvany tells me that landing lights are normally only put on early if there is an emergency, and the aircraft wishes to make itself clearly identifiable on its approach to the airport.

May, 1972.

LIONEL BEER.

WHENCE ?

In the ten years or so in which I have been interested in Ufology I have naturally tried to come to some conclusions as a result of my studies, and the more I try to categorize or resolve my observations the more I am forced to admit that the whole subject is far more complex than at first thought and the ramifications extend to an ever widening field.

We are told by some that the " answer " or " solution " becomes readily apparent when concentrating on the experiences of some contactees and ignoring side issues. This may be a lead to some but so far it has eluded me.

I would contend that there are many levels of existence and that a few men can raise themselves to such levels from time to time. This, coupled with the fact that we most probably have a number of senses or faculties beyond our usual five, either lost to us from the past, or merely lying dormant awaiting our comprehension and gradual usage. Evidence for this is E.S.P., mental telepathy, the peculiar powers manifested by many Old World practitioners, the authentic cases of levitation, faith healing, spells and curses &c; all these both positive and negative point the way.

Another relevant factor is the continuing evidence of archeologists and researchers that highly advanced civilizations have existed on this planet in the past and that much scientific and cultural knowledge has been lost, particularly in the so called Dark Ages.

This may seem somewhat remote from Ufology as such, but I feel it does serve as a back drop for the scene we find ourselves in at present. With these considerations there can be no pat answer or solution until we develop our minds and try to overcome the cussedness of human nature, and live as the Good Lord (or the Universal Power—for some) intended. For me this is basis logic. Then we shall achieve the real power of understanding. All this and more can be ours and indeed is for a few now, but in the main mankind is just not really interested in reality and truth—just seeking the transient and entertainment. All the reaserch, analysis, scientific knowledge or even authentic experiences with the public at large participating will come to no avail unless a wider view is taken which will embrace the study of man himself and his purpose here on Earth. At this point I can sense the hostility amongst many who may read this and the inevitable cynicism aroused. What has this to do with Ufology? Keep the subject on a scientific level, why drag religion into it, but to me Ufology must be considered as part of a whole " grand conception " and definitely not an odd scientific phenomenon. As so few people see life this way one can only generally plead for more of an open and enquiring mind to evaluate UFO reports and to yet and gently persuade the scientific diehards that there is far more to the subject and life itself than is readily apparent. To those who know me I am a very hard working businessman, with very little time left over for much research, so this is not the ramblings of some remote mystic out of touch with life and reality.

Already I see the climate of opinion widening amongst our well known present day researchers as they are forced to expand their views; and the sooner we shed the mantle of coyness and cynicism and open our eyes to the real facts the sooner a complete understanding and comprehension will result, i.e. what has happened in our past, what is now taking place and the sinister forces that are acting on our society and what will most assuredly take place in the not too distant future, and when indeed we have developed ourselves in the right manner and overcome the " cussedness " of human nature true enlightenment may well be ours.

P.W.

GUIDE TO THE UFO PHENOMENON

BUFORA is proud to announce the forthcoming publication of a new booklet entitled, "Guide to the UFO Phenomenon." This booklet, compiled jointly by the officers of the Association, will be the first in a series of similar publications dealing, in certain instances, with general aspects of the subject, and in others with a particular UFO case history which has warranted "in depth" investigation.

The aims and uses of publications of this type are unquestionably of tremendous value both to the Association and to the general standard of UFO investigation and research.

1. Apart from the pages of the Journal, booklets such as "Guide to the UFO Phenomenon" will in future, provide a permanent record of the work of BUFORA and also a very effective method of advertising our objectives.
2. Their main purpose would be to raise our standing as a scientifically oriented organisation and to elevate the study of UFOs to the level of acceptance enjoyed by recognised sciences.
3. An incentive would be given to our members and others to encourage more active participation by affording a goal in their efforts to come to grips with the illusive phenomenon.
4. Various compiled booklets would satisfy the urgent need for documentation of UFO sightings in a meaningful form and would give us the means of presenting documentary evidence in a practical and systematic manner for appraisal by learned bodies.
5. Experience has shown that the general public are largely ignorant of the total situation that exists and that often their only contact with the subject is from intermittent and usually erroneous reports in the press. UFO booklets will be made available to the public in the hope of educating them and rectifying the adverse position.
6. Finally, and of greatest importance the publication of specialised reports could ultimately provide the key to the discovery and establishment of certain basic scientific facts about the UFO phenomenon.

Contents of the Guide.

"Guide to the UFO Phenomenon" is designed to appeal hopefully to both the layman and to the scientific mind. It contains a description of the Association and traces its formation and history. There is an introduction by the Chairman followed by sections dealing with the thorny questions of definition, nature and evidence. Tim O'Brien, the National Co-ordinator goes on to explain how BUFORA investigates, and gives advice to 'potential' witnesses in the event of a UFO sighting. Major theories and the search for explanations are summarised and the Chairman Roger Stanway attempts to answer the question, "Are scientists and governments interested?" Finally there is a short list of quotations, well known to those familiar with the subject, but guaranteed to impress the less knowledgeable. The sixteen page booklet is illustrated using McMinville and Santa Ana photographs and a diagram of the Socorro, New Mexico landing site.

The price and availability are not yet to hand as this Journal goes to press, but as soon as details are available these will be circulated to the membership.

A.R.P.

NOTES & QUOTES

That 'Uneasy Alliance.' I am sorry that my comments on the "COSMOS" —"SIRIUS" alliance caused annoyance among its supporters. I am happy to record that a new publication, "GEMINI," sprung from the union of the two societies' journals, is an excellent addition to the field of UFO literature. It is obtainable from 95 Taunton Road, S.E.12, at a cost of 25p.

Note for Materialists. "Ground has been lost through a false belief that science points only to materialism."

—SIR ALISTER HARDY, F.R.S.

What of Warminster? My old friend and co-worker Ken Rogers undertook a valuable and long-overdue chore when he founded "WARMINSTER UFO NEWS-LETTER." (Obtainable from 'Preston House,' East Street, Warminster, Wilts, price 10p.) The first few issues have been excellent, although I would caution Ken to avoid the rather tiresome juggling with dates and numbers which is so beloved of mystagogues and pseudo-occultists everywhere and everywhen and to stick always to facts and logical deductions based upon facts. Which leads me on to consider the latest line of attack on the Warminster 'Thing' and those who make it their business to study it. It is presently being stated that there was indeed much genuine UFO activity in the area in 1965-1966, but that it has now died out and persons who still visit Cradle Hill are enthusiasts actively engaged in flogging a dead horse. Splendid—were it not for the fact that some of those who now advance this argument are the same critics who decried the phenomena in their heyday! My personal view is that things are very quiet on the Warminster Front at the moment but that Warminster is still very much a Ufocal and activity may resume at any time.

Food for Thought. "The Euclidean or quasi-Euclidean spatial picture of the starry Universe, measuring distances between stars and even galaxies in parsecs or light years on the analogy of earthly distances from town to town, only on a grander scale, has got a powerful hold on the imagination of our time, nor is it generally realised how much of this is theoretical and speculative."

—GEO. ADAMS, paper on "Space & Counter-Space."

The Shadow of Adamski. In the course of the article on the Scoriton Mystery, in this issue, some critical comments appear on the late George Adamski, penned by Eric Biddle, now himself passed on. How I wish we could have a really factual analysis of Adamski and his claims, uninfluenced either by blind faith in the man or bitter repudiation of everything pertaining to him. To me, literal acceptance of much that Adamski taught is utterly unthinkable. Nevertheless, I am not so ready as I once was to write him off as a vulgar fraud. There must be an intermediate position which will bring him into clear focus.

Scientific Objectivity.

“ However, upon further pointed questioning, it was learned that one of these people had indeed some excellent examples of MIBs but had consciously dismissed the material because it would contaminate his studies, was too weird to be considered, or was irrelevant to the problem of UFOs.”

—DR. B. E. SCHWARZ, in a recent article in
' FLYING SAUCER REVIEW.'

A Reflection on Scientists.

Following from the above quotation, many scientists refuse to consider UFO phenomena, not to mention psychic phenomena, for much the same reasons that the gentleman cited would not consider the manifestations of the ' Men-in-Black.' For my own part, I am no exponent of the respectful kow-tow, especially when confronted with closed-minded scientists prepared to sacrifice truth upon the altar of materialistic preconceptions.

J. C-B.

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One of the first UFO sightings recorded by an astronomer occurred in 1868. Starting with this, **Larry Kettelkamp** presents a list of other scientific sightings, and then describes some famous cases in more detail. The author also discusses the physical phenomena that might cause the illusion of a UFO and considers the possibility of intelligent life on other planets.

This book has some of the answers and its type and illustrations, including photographs of fake UFO's, should interest many young believers.

RONALD STACY
56 DOUGHTY STREET
LONDON · WC1N 2LS

Linda Yeatman Book Addict

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

Articles and items for inclusion in the ' Journal ' must be sent direct to the Editor and not to other BUFORA officers. Requests for permission to reproduce material from the ' Journal ' should also be addressed to the Editor.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

UFO Information Retrieval Centre, Inc.,
P.O. Box 57, Riderwood,
Maryland 21139, U.S.A.

19th April, 1972.

Dear Dr. Cleary-Baker,

Congratulations on Vol. 3, No. 5 of the BUFORA JOURNAL. It is especially interesting, informative and in good taste!

We particularly liked the UFOLOG Section and the announcement of forthcoming Meetings.

Yours truly,

THOMAS M. OLSEN, M.S.

—o—
24 Peacroft Lane,
Hilton,
Derbyshire.

13th March, 1972.

B.U.F.O.R.A. Journal,
3 Devenish Road, Weeke,
Winchester, Hants.

Dear Sirs,

On Monday, 21st November, 1971, I was driving with my wife from Derby to Hilton along the Derby to Uttoxeter Road. It was 5.45 in the evening and I was driving on headlamps—the road being unlit.

As we passed close by Burnaston my wife pointed out a white, bright light which I estimated to be at 2,000ft. I have observed many aircraft approaching East Midlands Airport at night and am familiar with the appearance of their navigation lights at known altitudes. The light, however, did not seem to behave like a conventional aircraft. It was brighter than aircraft navigation lights, and seemed to be moving slowly northwards. Sometimes it appeared to be stationary, or to perform slow gyrations like somebody waving a torch in circles. The light was flashing in an irregular manner—its appearance being alternately dull white and very bright white. It did not flash on and off.

Seven minutes later, having passed through Etwall, it began to look slightly red at its lowest illumination, but still flashed bright white in an irregular manner.

I pulled off the main road and got out of the car to observe it more carefully. It was now hovering and gyrating but did not seem to be travelling in any particular direction. It was then that I noticed a similar light to the South. This light appeared to be over Rolleston-on-Dove and was at the same elevation as the first light, i.e. 40° approximately. The second light, however, was a definite red colour and it flashed irregularly from dull to bright but its colour did not change. The second light was absolutely stationary.

I started the car again and reached the house, not having observed either light for the last two to three minutes. I now observed the second light from the back garden. It appeared to have been joined on its western side by the first light, which could not now be seen in the North, although I did not now have a complete unimpeded view due to nearby houses. Both lights now performed slight gyrations and slowly parted. The first light moved slowly away to the West and the second light moved slowly away to the East.

The whole performance lasted roughly three-quarters of an hour, and at all times the lights were at an elevation of 40° or less. No particular sound could be heard and both appeared brighter than navigation lights (aircraft).

The lights were observed by my wife and nextdoor neighbours. When viewed through binoculars they appeared hardly magnified, still appearing as very bright points of light.

I should like to state that I have read extensively on the subject of UFOs and have therefore tried to be as objective as possible in writing this report.

I shall be interested to know if you have received any other similar reports from this area.

sincerely,

GAVIN F. WILSHAW.

INVESTIGATIONS SECTION

To Chairman of BUFORA.

From National Investigations Co-ordinator.

REPORT for PERIOD 1st JANUARY to 30th APRIL, 1972

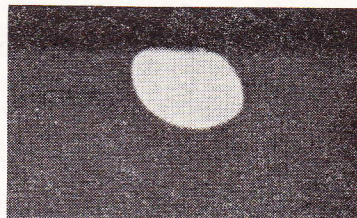
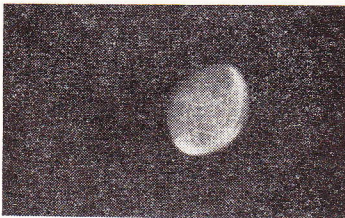
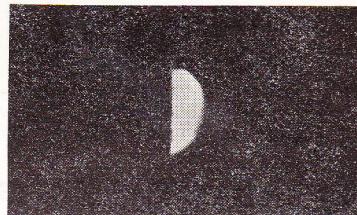
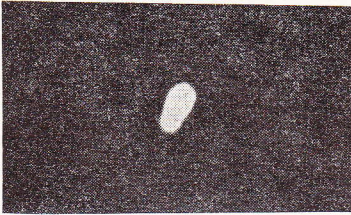
This report covers the second four month period of my work as Investigations Co-ordinator. In contrast to the period of the first report, it was a period of low activity with a complete absence of higher grade sightings.

Illustrated UFO highlights of the last year



The local police, one of the key witnesses and the Investigators Dr. J. Allen Hynek and Julien Hennessey caught by "camera man" Roger Stanway as they re-enact the event of that much publicised UFO sighting at Aldridge, Staffs., in the early hours of Sunday morning, 16th August, 1971.

After taking careful compass bearings of the directions reported by the police and other witnesses, in which they had observed the bright yellow pulsating UFO, calculations soon determined the unknown to be none other than the planet Mars. Further investigation showed that the four photographs taken by P.C. Leek and purporting to show the UFO were merely images created by local street lighting. (See below.)





Although admitting our non-professional status, Roger Stanway the Chairman emphasises BUFORA's objective approach to UFO investigation and research during a public meeting held at Banbury in February this year. At the meeting, featured on BBC 2 Man Alive programme, local residents and ufologists were invited to put questions to a distinguished panel including UFO authorities Charles Bowen and Charles Gibbs-Smith, together with a psychologist and a gentleman representing the Ministry of Defence (Air).



“Where there are patterns science may enter.”

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, one of the world's leading advocates of scientific UFO research, talked about the scientists' dilemma in the BBC 2 Horizon programme, “The Day it rained Periwinkles.” The programme, designed for that purpose, portrayed the resistant attitude of established science to the study of new phenomena, choosing the well known examples of meteorites, and more recently of “ball lightning.” (February 1972.)

A. Investigation Statistics.

The following is a statistical breakdown of sighting material received during the period.

<i>Newspaper cuttings from Durrants</i>	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	169
reports worth recording	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	
reports NOT worth recording	.....	.....	.....	.....	23	
duplicates and irrelevant material	.....	.....	.....	.....	139	
					<hr/>	
<i>Cuttings, letters and reports from BUFORA members and public</i>	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	18
reports worth recording	.....	.....	.....	.....	18	
					<hr/>	
<i>Total</i>	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	187
					<hr/>	

On the 25 reports listed as “worth recording,” action was taken as follows:

<i>Recorded but not investigated</i>	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	nil
<i>Reports sent to, or received from, local investigators</i>	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	25
Sighting Report Form returned after interview of witnesses	.....	.....	.....	.....	21	
Sighting Report Form not returned	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	

The 21 Sighting Report Forms, returned after interview of witnesses, were classified as follows:

Unclassified	.....	.....	.....	.....	9	
N	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	
? S	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	(there is some doubt, however, of the genuineness of these).

A remarkable feature of this activity is that, of the 21 Sightings, no less than 14 occurred in the general area of Walthamstow where they were all investigated by Mr. K. Phillips. Of the 12 Sightings classified N or ?S, 7 were from Walthamstow. This will be commented on in a later section.

B. Investigation Comment.

1. *Walthamstow.*

The Walthamstow area, flanked by Chingford to the north and Leyton to the south, lies in the southernmost portion of Epping Forest and still contains undeveloped stretches of woodland. It is bounded on the west by the River Lea Valley which holds an almost continuous string of reservoirs from Ware, in the north, to the Thames, 20 miles further south.

The sightings are mainly of the “bright, or glowing light” variety, and a number of the more definite occurred up to three years ago; one was associated with the King George’s Reservoir. A “landing” of three “discs” in Waltham Forest is uncorroborated because of the reluctance of the sighter to become involved.

Certainly, people in the area have been reporting unusual phenomena, which has kept our investigator exceptionally busy, but I am reluctant to put any great weight on the value of these sightings in furthering our knowledge of UFOs. In the first place public interest has been stirred by the active and sympathetic reporting of the Walthamstow Guardian, and in the second, I am concerned by a

statement by one resident who claimed that a "ball of fire" which descended into his garden was "only a paper ball powered by a small tin of burning methylated spirits."

However, a close watch will be kept on any further activities in this area.

2. *Other Areas.*

Of the remaining sightings, three were reported from Surrey, by Mr. Omar Fowler, and are being investigated by SIGNAP. One of these appears to be significant. Two witnesses reported a bright, shining circle, very high in the sky, from which several bright lights broke away. In binoculars, one object was visible surrounded by a number of smaller objects in a circle. In this case the possibility of refuelling of military aircraft at a great height has to be considered, with the tanker moving around a closed circuit.

C. Significant Investigations.

Investigation of Sightings of outstanding interest, outlined in Report No. 1, has been continued. Pertinent progress has been as follows:

Report No. 1181 — Oxford Area — 26 October 71 — SS.

The A.T.V. film in this case was submitted for examination by a panel of experts under the auspices of the KODAK Museum. The film failed to reveal a definitive object.

Report No. 1182 — Northwood — 27 October 71 — SSS.

No further corroboration has been obtained of this remarkable sighting despite excellent Press co-operation in the district, and assistance from Northolt Airport and the Ruislip Reservoir authorities. The file will now be closed and prepared for Evaluation.

Report No. 1196 — Barrow-in-Furness — 21 November 71 — SS.

No further corroboration despite local Press assistance and active interest by the Management of the Vickers Shipyard. The file will now be closed and prepared for Evaluation.

Report No. 1206 — Truro — 14 November 71 — SS.

This fascinating Sighting was investigated by my wife and myself, with active co-operation from the witnesses, Mr. and Mrs. Thorne. Although the file on this case is still open, it appears likely that I shall be able to submit evidence to the Evaluation Panel that the Sighting was made on a barium cloud ejected into the ionosphere from a rocket launched near Bordeaux.

D. Concluding Remarks.

The lull in frequency of Sightings which I reported for December, 1971 has continued throughout the first part of 1972. Although some interesting Sightings have been claimed none has been of a definitive nature.

I am forced to conclude that, in the first four months of 1972, in contrast to the Summer of 1971, there has been no acceptable evidence of the presence of "advanced technology" in the skies over Britain.

CLAYPITTS,
THAXTED, ESSEX.
24th May, 1972.

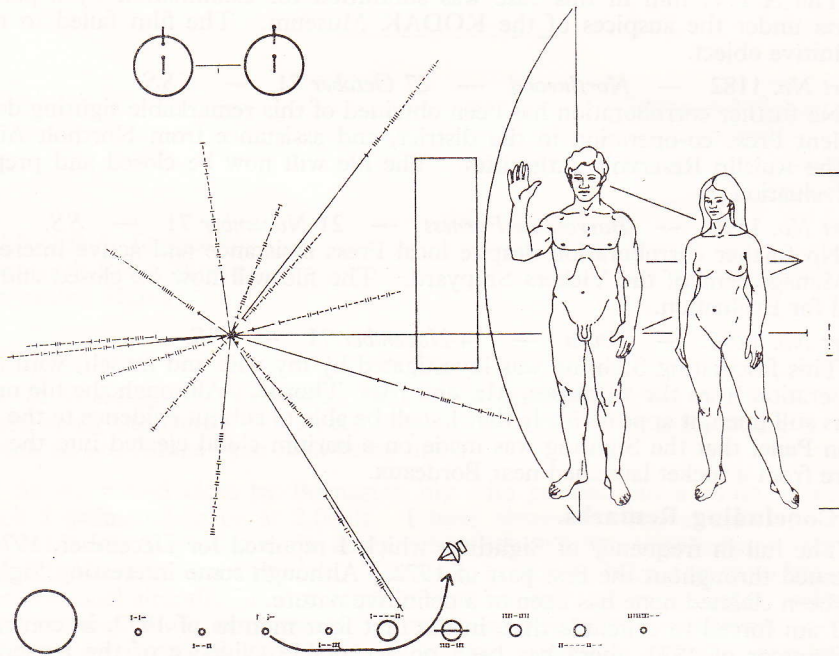
Signed
C. A. E. O'BRIEN

PIONEER BREAKS NEW GROUND

The Pioneer 10 probe, carrying the plaque shown below, crossed the orbit of Mars on 25th May and entered a region of space never before explored by a spacecraft. At the beginning of July, on its journey towards Jupiter, the probe will begin the seven-month traverse of the 175 million mile-wide asteroid belt.

Pioneer 10, which set a record for the fastest man-made object ever flown, has now covered some 124 million miles, 200 million km. since the launch on 3rd March, 1972. In twelve weeks it had covered the 50 million miles between the orbits of Earth and Mars, which compares dramatically with the approximate five months period required for previous Mars flights. To date the average speed has been about 75,000 m.p.h., but during the latter part of the flight its actual speed will be reduced by the Sun's gravitational attraction, to 25,000 m.p.h. As Jupiter is approached the spacecraft will again accelerate.

Encounter with the giant planet should be on 3rd December, 1973, when Pioneer 10 will pass Jupiter at about 87,000 miles, 140,000 km. All the eleven-on-board experiments have now been turned on, and are said to be functioning satisfactorily.
A.R.P.



The aluminum plaque depicts man in scale with a drawing of the Pioneer spacecraft, the path of the spacecraft, Earth's solar system, the alignment of the nine planets, schematic of two states of atomic hydrogen and a pulsar map depicting the 14 pulsars in the Milky Way galaxy. These symbols, according to astronomer Carl Sagan, are the ideal way to specify where the spacecraft is from and when it was launched.

APRO UFO SYMPOSIUM

On 22nd and 23rd November, 1971, a highly successful UFO symposium was held in the Gallagher Theatre, Student Union, at the University of Arizona, Tucson, U.S.A. The sponsoring organisations were Aerial Phenomena Research Organization Inc., (APRO) and the University of Arizona Student Chapter, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). It is reassuring to note that despite the somewhat negative conclusions of the "Condon Report," the subject of UFOs continues to arouse scientific interest in the U.S.A.

The Symposium was intended to provide both the University community and the public with information pertaining to research on unidentified flying objects (UFOs). Psychological and social aspects were explored, as well as the question of extra-terrestrial life, intelligence and possible interstellar travel.

After the opening address by Mr. L. J. Lorenzen and Dr. Russell Peterson representing the co-sponsors of the Symposium, the ten scientists (and APRO Consultants in physical, biological and social sciences), who were to read papers were presented by Mr. Richard Greenwell, APRO's Assistant Director. Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Chairman of the Northwestern University's Astronomy Department then made an introductory presentation in which he stated that the meeting ". . . can be called the first true scientific symposium (on the subject) because all the speakers are recognised scientists in their own right Speaking of APRO Consultants, you may wonder why my name does not appear on this impressive list. It's there, between the lines, as I would like to be on the roster of any organisation which is dedicated to the search for truth and not for political manoeuvring."

After Dr. Hynek's introduction, the Biological Sciences panel convened and began with a paper entitled, "UFOs and the Current status of Exobiology" by Dr. Frank B. Salisbury, a plant physiologist and exobiologist at Utah State University. Dr. Salisbury mentioned the very strange situations in which life exists on Earth in sand, snow, sandstone, gasoline, oil and salt. He discussed the form that extraterrestrial intelligent life might take and speculated that the humanoid form could be the most convenient. It was noted that the majority of reports of UFO occupants involved humanoid observations.

The next speaker was Dr. John C. Munday, a biophysicist at Canada's University of Toronto. His paper described the kind of data to look for in close encounter UFO reports and offered various possible explanations for certain reported effects and after-effects. Animal reactions, radiation effects and electromagnetic effects were also discussed. Dr. Munday went on to make certain recommendations for future on-the-spot investigations and concluded that if close encounter descriptions of UFOs are reliable representatives of physical reality then we can hardly avoid the aircraft/spacecraft explanation of these objects.

"Possible paranormal implication of the UFO phenomenon" was the title of the next paper by Dr. Harold A. Cahn, Associate Professor of Biology at Northern Arizona University. He proposed that "we see what we believe—not believe what we see," and presented psychological and psycho-physiological evidence to support his theory.

In the afternoon the Social Sciences convened with papers by Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, Dr. Emerson W. Shideler and Dr. Robert F. Creegan. Dr. Sprinkle, a psychologist from the University of Wyoming, was particularly interested in the types of persons who make UFO reports. He stated that the available evidence did not support the idea that "kooks and cultists" were the primary source of UFO sightings; on the contrary, these are submitted by persons who represent a wide range of psychological and sociological characteristics.

Dr. Shideler, a Professor of Philosophy Emeritus, Iowa State University then discussed what he called, "A Metaphysic for UFOs." He said that he had "no answer to that hard question (of possible extraterrestrial visitation.) I have set a much simpler question for this paper. That question is why does novelty have such a hard time amongst us? If UFOs are what many people think they are, a radical revision of our present world view will be required. Such a revision would involve our notion of time and space, the nature of physical reality, the structure of science, the nature of man and our place in the scheme of things . . ."

Dr. Creegan, a Professor of Philosophy at the State University of New York at Albany, offered various criteria or "desired characteristics" in UFO reports, such as "numbers of observers," "duration of sighting," "multiple physical locations of observers" and so on. He discussed investigative techniques employed in Canada and Great Britain and concluded that, "the missing links between local human intelligence and the intelligence of a similar or higher degree of complexity might throw light on the nature, origins and destiny of man."

The second day of the Symposium opened with the Physical Science Panel consisting of Dr. Richard C. Henry, Dr. Walter W. Walker, Dr. B. Roy Frieden and Dr. John S. Derr. Dr. Henry addressed himself among other things to the question of interstellar flight. He accepted its feasibility by means of time dilation due to speeds close to that of light, and said that astronauts could virtually live for millions of years (Earth time.) Dr. Henry, an X-ray astronomer with the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C., said, "it is often objected that by the time we made the voyage and came back to Earth, all our friends would be dead. I think this is an extremely naive and short sighted argument. The answer is to take your friends with you and not to come back at all!"

Dr. Walker, the second speaker discussed his structural analysis of the Ubatuba magnesium samples and made it quite clear that he could not "prove" that the material came from an extraterrestrial technology, though he had shown its structure to have certain unique characteristics.

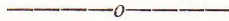
The better UFO photographs in APRO's files were reviewed by Dr. Frieden, a professor at The University of Arizona's new Optical Sciences Centre. Certain of these photographs had either proven to be clever fakes or serious doubt had been cast on their authenticity. The Trindade Island (IGY) and the McMinnville (Trent) photographs, however, could not be shown to be faked and Dr. Frieden considered them the best photographic evidence available.

The last speaker was Dr. Derr, a seismologist with Martin Marietta Corp., in Denver, and a member of Mission Design for the Viking Mars lander scheduled for 1975. Dr. Derr's paper concerned "earthquake lights"—a rare atmospheric luminescence which has been reported before, during and after seismic activity. For some years UFO reports had been made in the vicinity of earthquakes and it was felt that many of these could have been the result of the natural "earthquake lights" phenomenon.

After the presentation of the papers in each session, a panel discussion was held among the speakers who took part. Many other aspects of UFOs and their implications were discussed, but APRO is unable to present at this time. The main consensus of the Symposium was that a phenomenon exists and that its origin is probably physical and unconventional. The possibility of extraterrestrial visitation was considered likely, although not provable at the present time.

Details of the Symposium were taken from the A.P.R.O. Bulletin, November-December, 1971, and it is hoped that the full proceedings will be published in book-form by Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, Inc., in the not too distant future. The availability of this document, which is strongly recommended to BUFORA members by the Research Director, will be advertised in the Journal.

A.R.P.



BUFORA REPORT ANALYSIS CARD PROJECT

In the Research Bulletin Vol. 3, No. 3, dated 28th November, 1970, Stephen Smith presented the design of the Report Analysis Card as it had evolved to that date. No further modifications were considered necessary by the Research Section, though any useful suggestions made after circulation of the Bulletin, but before the cards were printed, could be incorporated.

Since the date in question the system, as devised, has not been implemented largely due to the retirement of the previous Research Director, and it is now the aim of BUFORA to get the Project off the ground without further delay. After describing the data sections which required further elaboration, Stephen Smith went on to say, "Readers will by now have realised the complexity of the task of drawing up the various items to be included in the BUFORA Analysis Card Project, and doubtless some will be either in agreement with or disagreeing with various points in the scheme of things outlined above. Unfortunately space in this edition of the Bulletin does not allow a full exposition of all the thinking behind each analysis entry or of all the problems and alternatives that have been considered in bringing the card to the present state of design." It is therefore essential that BUFORA establishes an effective and comprehensive analysis and reference system for its report files and that the careful thought and effort behind the Project is not wasted but is brought to fruition.

In the original design the analysis card had a clear space of 14 holes down the right-hand end, and it was envisaged that the most probable first use of this would be a coding location for shape. It was stated however, that it required a considerable amount of thought and research before a rational and comprehensive coding scheme could be achieved.

Present State of the Project.

In order to utilise the unused card space and to include other significant and commonly reported UFO characteristics, the following have been added to the existing yes/no indicators, i.e. "communication," "lights," "sound," "smell" and "physical evidence." In addition there are the inclusion of "physical" and "animals" in the effects section, and an indicator for radar cases. A section has been set aside for a future coding location for shape. Though the inclusion of "rotation" could easily lead to misleading results in some future comparative study, as suggested by Stephen Smith, this is now added with the intention that it will only be used when the definition of the entry has been properly clarified.

Originally the location of the UFO event was shown by means of a county coding and restricted the system to the United Kingdom and Eire. The addition of two yes/no indicators "A" and "B" representing North America and the U.K. (and Eire) respectively, now converts the existing analysis card to one capable of covering the global phenomenon, (i.e. 3 x 199 possible analysis locations—199 to cover the counties of U.K. and Eire, 199 for the U.S.A. (and possibly Canada) and 199 for other countries of the world).

At the present time the artwork is being prepared for photographic reproduction and the necessary holes will be drilled subsequently.

Initially to save an enormous amount of time and effort the report analysis card system will be implemented using those sightings which remain unidentified on BUFORA's files. Later as we gain experience in the practical uses of the cards, details of all current UFO sightings could be entered as these are reported. Those events which are ultimately identified would provide us with an "automatic" method of evaluating future reports.

A.R.P.

\$50,000 UFO REWARD OFFER

On Page 30 of the 12th March issue of The National Enquirer, Florida, U.S.A., the newspaper announced its sponsorship of a \$50,000 award to be paid to that individual who could furnish proof of the existence of UFOs before 1st January, 1973. The paper reads, "A reward of \$50,000 will be paid by the Enquirer to the first person who can prove that an Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) came from outer space and is not a natural phenomenon,"—without doubt a handsome reward, but a rather tall order!

Aerial Phenomena Research Organization, Inc., (APRO) of Tucson, Arizona, is acting as the consultant organisation on the project, and apart from Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Head of the Department of Astronomy at North Western University, APRO are providing the Board who will be responsible for the final judging of entries received by the Enquirer. With Dr. Hynek are APRO Consultants, Dr. Robert Creegan, Philosophy; Dr. James A. Harder, Civil Engineering; Dr. Frank B. Salisbury, Exobiology and Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, Psychology.

At the spring meeting the Board recommended an additional prize of \$5,000 be offered for "best evidence short of conclusive proof," and this has now been agreed by the Enquirer.

To qualify for either award, individuals must apply in writing directly to The National Enquirer, 600 South East Coast Avenue, Lantana, Florida, 33460, U.S.A., stating the nature of their proof.

A.R.P.

What if UFOs are not natural phenomena but originate elsewhere than in outer space?
—Editor.



The National Enquirer UFO Panel, who met earlier this year at Palm Beach, Florida, are seen here examining the initial crop of entries for the \$50,000 award. Left to right are: Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, Dr. Frank B. Salisbury, Dr. James A. Harder, Dr. Robert Creegan and Dr. J. Allen Hynek. L. J. Lorenzen APRO's Director is at the far right.

(The A.P.R.O. Bulletin, March—April, 1972).

UFOLOG
(Sightings Supplement)

UFO sighting-reports intended for inclusion in UFOLOG should be sent direct to the compiler, as follows:—

MRS. K. SMITH,
"Ringlemere," Colwell Road,
Colwell Bay, Isle of Wight.

A large percentage of all UFO reports relate to misidentified man-made artifacts or natural phenomena. 'Journal' readers must decide for themselves whether or not a given sighting ought to be assigned a conventional explanation or retained in the 'Unknown' category.

To assist them in reaching a decision, each report bears a number, i.e. 3/5/4, which implies Volume 3, Number 5, Report 4. Reports appearing in a given issue of the 'Journal' will be thus identified in future issues, when a verdict on each report will be delivered in the light of subsequent enquiries by BUFORA investigators.

Only major sightings can be evaluated fully. Minor sightings will, when possible, be subjected to appraisal.

It has been decided to confine the contents of UFOLOG to sightings reported within the compass of the British Isles, since investigation of foreign reports ought to devolve upon UFO societies operating in the countries concerned.

J. C-B.

Ref. : 3/7/1.

Time : Between 2245 and 2255 hrs.

Date : 25th May, 1971

Location : Belchar's Bar, near Ibstock
Leicestershire.

Mrs. Eunice Rose had been visiting friends at the village of Ibstock and at 1045 hrs, she left their home in her 1956 Austin A30 car to return to Hinckley. The weather was good and it had just stopped raining.

As she was driving along the country road between Odstone and the junction with the A47 at Belchar's Bar, she saw through the windscreen, a large, glowing light directly ahead of her and some distance away. After driving about half a mile and turning right at the junction towards Hinckley she noticed that her transistor radio, which was operating independently of her car, began to fade, and then it died away completely.

She then noticed that the car's headlights, which were operating on full beam had dimmed considerably and that her car, which was still accelerating away from the junction, was gradually losing power. At the same time she became conscious of the close proximity of a large light to her left, out of the front off-side window. Although at the time she was depressing the accelerator the engine would not respond normally but "coughed" and "spluttered" and came to a stop.

The engine did not cut out completely but was running very slowly and unevenly. Mrs. Rose said that she could see the light to her left out of the front passenger seat. It appeared to be very close, about 30 yards away, and it was moving quite slowly towards her. As the light got closer the interior of the car became increasingly brighter. The light moved directly over her car and she could then clearly see her cigarettes on the seat and on glancing about her, she perceived that the area round about her car was very strongly bathed in light.

Mrs. Rose described the "light" as being a flat circular disc and of "moonlight colour" all over. It had a well defined shape, "like a huge plate," of solid appearance, but with no markings or noticeable projections. She thought that in size it encompassed the entire width of the road from hedge to hedge. (approx. 15 yards).

The object moved slowly and smoothly, and at no time was any sound audible above the noise of the car engine which was continually running. It was roughly estimated to have been 110 yards away over a field when the headlights and the radio began to pick up again. When she depressed the accelerator pedal again, the engine "spluttered" a few times then responded normally.

Mrs. Rose said that at the time she felt frightened when the object passed overhead but when the light had gone her fear subsided and she was anxious to get home in the hope of receiving an explanation of what it was she had seen, or to find other people who had seen the object. There were no other vehicles on the road at the time. Mrs. Rose has read no books or magazines on UFO's and has no knowledge of other similar incidents of her own. During an interview at her home she was found to be completely puzzled about the experience she had had, and she was eager to find out the true nature of the event.

Investigated by Mr. GEOFFREY COXON.

The following seven reports were investigated and submitted by Mr. GEOFFREY COXON.

Ref. : 3/7/2.

Time : 2130 hrs.

Date : 8th August, 1971.

Location : Leicester.

Mrs. Nora Gawthroppe was called to the window by her 10-year-old daughter to see a "falling star." The object was spherical with sharp edges and it glowed bright orange. It descended slowly and steadily in a vertical plane, leaving a smoke or vapour trail. It disappeared behind the roofs of houses. The sky was obscured by heavy clouds at the time.

Ref. : 3/7/3.

Time : 0630 hrs.

Date : 16th August, 1971.

Location : Oadby, near Leicester.

On the 16th August, 1971, Mrs. Peggy Metcalf went into her garden and on looking up into the sky noticed what she first thought was a helicopter. She then saw that it had no rotor blades and was making no sound. The object moved along at a fairly slow speed and it had a wide V-shaped vapour trail. It was silver in colour—"like silver cooking foil", and it was "slipper-shaped." It moved from north to south and it was in view for about five minutes.

Ref. : 3/7/4.

Time : 2045 hrs.

Date : 17th August, 1971.

Location : Porthcawl, South Wales.

In a letter to the Cronicle Herald, Mr. D. H. Cooper described an object he and his family observed. He described it as egg-shaped in the centre of a small dark cloud.

The object was stationary in the south-south-west at a high altitude, and it was very brilliant. After watching it for about ten minutes it suddenly started to move and it climbed steadily—moving towards the north-east. It left behind it a wake—a brilliant white and reddish glow.

The object itself was not egg-shaped but circular. After travelling for a while across the sky it suddenly disappeared. When it was first seen the cloud in which it was situated was small, and as it was a clear night this was the only cloud visible.

Mr. Cooper said that the object was certainly not Mars and to suggest so is "utter rubbish." He was so intent on watching the object and so fascinated by it that he completely forgot that he had a cine camera with him containing 45 feet of film.

Ref. : 3/7/5.

Time : 1300 hrs.

Date : Approx. beginning of Sept., 1971.

Location : Leicester.

Mr. M. D. J. Tomlinson of Wigston, Leicester noticed a strange object in the sky. He glanced up at an aeroplane and noticed that between him and the plane was a shining object. He could not detect any particular shape—the effect was like flashing sunlight on a mirror. The object was stationary, and on arriving home Mr. Tomlinson checked the sky with his small telescope, but although this was only a matter of 30 seconds after seeing the object, he was unable to locate it again.

Ref. : 3/7/6.
Time : 2130 hrs.

Date : 3rd Sept., 24th Sept., 1971.
Location : Leicester.

On the evening of 3rd September, 1971, Mr. Edward Remmington saw a strange object in the sky moving from the north-west to south-east quite steadily and at a fast speed. It appeared to resemble a Chinese lantern, and it was illuminated brilliantly from within. It also emitted a bright pulsating light at intervals of about one second.

The object resembled a spherical balloon encased in light girder-work. This radiated in "spokes" from a central spindle at the top of the sphere.

Mr. Remmington, who is 69-years-old, and an ex-member of the Merchantile Marine, said that the ribbing of the object was similar to what one might expect on an airship. He had seen the R101, R100 and R34.

On the 24th September at 2100 hours, Mr. Remmington saw another object moving in exactly the same path but much faster. This he described as a sphere of great brilliance.

Ref. : 3/7/7.
Time : Not Known.

Date : 5th September, 1971.
Location : Leicester.

Witness and his wife were in their garden when they observed a most unusual object in the sky above them. It was flying around in gradually decreasing circles and it finally disappeared in the north-east at quite considerable speed.

The shape of the object was similar to that of a large bird with oval-shaped wings, but having no central body. There appeared to be dark shadings at the two extreme ends. During its flight it appeared to flash silver at different angles. The object was in view for four to five minutes.

Ref. : 3/7/9.
Time : 1830 hrs.

Date : 17th October, 1971.
Location : Leicester.

Two boys, Timothy Jones and his friend, were playing at the bottom of Timothy's garden when they noticed an unusual object in the sky, moving up and down. Timothy said that when the object ascended it turned red, and when it descended it turned white. When it was white it shone so brilliantly that it hurt his eyes. They watched it for ten minutes until it disappeared behind a tree.

Ref. : 3/7/10.
Time : 1230 hrs.

Date : 30th October, 1971.
Location : Ilkeston, Notts.
Nottingham Guardian-Journal.

Bus conductor P. J. Devine of Green Lane said that as his bus was travelling along Ilkeston Road, near Middleton Boulevard island, he heard a sudden noise like a siren—a "weird shocking noise." Although he saw nothing himself, he says that his driver saw a small round object, which he compared in size to his steering wheel, surrounded by sparks, which flew twice round the bus before flying away. Apparently other drivers saw the object as well, but the police received no reports. A member of Raleigh's security staff reported that at the time of the sighting the warning klaxon on the propane tank near Ilkeston Road went off; this made an unearthly sound which would account for the noise, coinciding with the object's appearance.

Ref. : 3/7/11.

Date : before 5th November, 1971.
Location : Dartford.

Bexleyheath Observer & Dartford and Swanley Chronicle.

15-year-old Richard Dann of Seaton Road, reported an object over Shepherds Lane. He described it as cigar-shaped with a ring of white light and a ring of red light around it, and said it seemed to hover. Then it changed direction and shot off, low towards Crayford.

Ref. : 3/7/12.
Time : After Dark.

Date : 10th November, 1971.
Location : Capel St. Mary, Essex.
Colchester Evening Gazette.

Mr. Bill McCann, advertising manager of Essex County Newspapers, together with his wife, and four children, one of whom, 12-year-old Stephen McCann got out his telescope, observed a bright red object slowly cross the sky over his house. A second object shot away from it and disappeared behind cloud. On previous nights Mr. McCann had seen red lights cross the sky but paid little attention to them. He said this object was "definitely not an aircraft"—at least "it was not like a normal jet which leaves a trail." (However, a recent film on television showed some jets in a group not leaving any visible trail, and military aircraft do not necessarily show all conventional lights), "nor a balloon or meteor." It travelled westward away from Capel St. Mary. The police had received no other reports of this object and would have expected other people to phone them as "there has been quite a lot of this sort of thing lately."

(In order to obtain explanations from the Ministry of Defence it is necessary for the witness himself or herself to write to them requesting such).

Ref. : 3/7/13.
Time : 2245 hrs.

Date : 25th December, 1971.
Location : Kimpton, St. Albans.
Herts Advertiser.

Mrs. Jean Munden of Commons Lane reports that as she, her husband Ronald and their three children, Susan, Mandy and Steven, were getting out of their car outside their home, they saw a "fiery object" coming over from the direction of St. Albans. It appeared only three houses high, she said, and looked about three times the size of a football. As it passed overhead they saw flames coming from it. Next a piece "as large as a football" broke away and fell towards the ground, the glow from it changing to smoke until it vanished. They watched the object until it reached the fields beyond the wood yard. A second "fiery object", which had been following the first, travelled on for another 3 or 4 hundred yards until it suddenly disappeared.

Ten minutes later Mr. Munden saw another object approaching from St. Albans. This was larger and disappeared in the direction of Hitchin.

They searched the fields the next day to look for the piece they saw falling to the ground, but found nothing.

Ref. : 3/7/14.
Time : 0100 hrs.

Date : 3rd January, 1972.
Location : Brightlingsea, Essex.
Colchester Evening Gazette

Mr. Philip Edwards of Upper Park Road, was awoken by an extraordinary rushing sound. Thinking it to be an aircraft about to crash, he jumped out of bed and rushed to the window. However, instead of seeing a low flying plane he saw a great light between them and the river and a series of orange flashes from lights in the sky, which his wife witnessed as well. In the morning they learnt that their two sons, Richard, aged 13 and Charles, 15, had also been awoken by the noise and watched the strange lights in the sky, and as a result had stayed awake nearly all night. The police had received no other reports and could not offer an explanation. Neither could an Army spokesman who said that while normally it could have been them, they had no training exercises in the area at present.

Ref. : 3/7/15.
Time : About 2230 hrs.

Date : 20th January, 1972.
Location : South Shields.

Mr. Jim Todd, electrician at Readhead's shipyard, said that he and three workmates saw five "roundish" objects, high up, flying in a cross formation eastwards over the sea. Two were red, the others orange, yellow and blue. They were visible for 2 or 3 minutes. The objects were first noticed by crane driver Jack Short of Brockley Avenue.

Ref. : 3/7/16.
Time : After Dark.

Date : 11th February, 1972.
Location : Loughborough, Leics.
Leicester Mercury.

As their homeward-bound train was pulling into Loughborough, two boys, Halit Akkan (11) and Warren Green (13), both of Mathews Estate, Leicester, noticed an apparently square object in the sky with a central flashing red light and four white corner lights. It appeared to hover before sinking in the light of powerful beams towards a field. The boys are train spotters but also often search the skies for UFOs and meteors, though they never really expected they would see anything extraordinary.

Ref. : 3/7/17.
Time : After Dark.

Date : Before 16th March, 1972.
Location : Swinton, Lancs.
Eccles & Patricroft Journal.

Chemical worker and keen amateur astronomer, Mr. Les Morris of Beechfield Road, Swinton, was walking home with his daughter Marlene when he saw a strange red light in the sky "the size of a tennis ball" which appeared to be about 500 ft. up. He thought at first it might be a jet but it hovered for several minutes then turned and vanished. As soon as he got home he phoned Manchester Airport and was told that there had been no air-traffic for at least $\frac{1}{4}$ hour before he made the sighting. As he watched the object a driver stopped his car to have a look, but unfortunately he drove on before Mr. Morris could ask him for his opinion. Mr. Morris said that he had never seen anything like it before.

Ref. : 3/7/18.
Time : Night.

Date : Before 22nd March, 1972
Location : Swinton, Lancs.
Manchester Evening News.

Schoolgirls, Ellen Chapman and Fiona Cannon, both of Tennyson Road, reported four red lights, one of which was continually flashing and seemed to lead the others about the sky.

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EDITORIAL NOTE

The last nine reports in the above edition of UFOLOG were extracted, with permission, from NUFORO BULLETIN, published at 12 Dorset Road, Cheam, Sutton, Surrey, by my old friend and colleague Nigel Stephenson. Nigel was a prime mover in the foundation of the two societies which amalgamated in 1964 to form BUFORA and he is an Honorary Life Member of BUFORA and a past Chairman and Research Director of the Association. We welcome his recovery from a long spell of nervous illness and appreciate his assistance in compiling this issue of UFOLOG.

I am asked by the Research Section to stress that UFOLOG reports represent raw material sightings on which research is necessary in order to determine which of them, if any, are inexplicable in ordinary terms.

UFOLOG APPRAISALS

- Ref.* : 3/6/1 : Apparently in a letter to the witness, the Air Ministry have explained the event as a helicopter. The case is under investigation (by myself).
- Ref.* : 3/6/2 : Presumably the lights were seen in darkness hours and therefore could have had a number of quite normal explanations. Perhaps the lights were extinguished by the cars passing directly in front of them. Almost anything could have disturbed the cattle and caused the cat to 'yowl.' Oppressive weather conditions may easily give the effect reported by the son and daughter.
- On the other hand the 'fact' that they both had identical dreams is most intriguing in itself and requires further investigation. Whether the circumstantial factors of the lights, the disturbed animals and the unusual heat had some connection with the subject of the dreams is a matter of interpretation and conjecture.
- Ref.* : 3/6/3 : Possibly a balloon of some kind?
- Ref.* : 3/6/4 : Sounds very like a bright meteor or fireball.
- Ref.* : 3/6/6 : A very scant report! If the object was as large as the witness described (5 or 6 Jumbo Jets put together) then surely other people in the vicinity could not have failed to see it. Far more data required; could be an outstanding case?
- Ref.* : 3/6/7 : If true this case requires 'in depth' investigation.
- Ref.* : 3/6/9 : Could have had a number of explanations. Although the account contains some detail it described nothing more than a "light in the sky."
- Ref.* : 3/6/10 : I believe this is a hoax. (See Roger Stanway).
- Ref.* : 3/6/11 : The report describes an unusual event which if true requires "in depth" investigation.
- Ref.* : 3/6/12 : No comment!
- Ref.* : 3/6/14 : A satellite?
- Ref.* : 3/6/15 : A full report is being compiled by Roger Stanway.
- Ref.* : 3/6/16 : The reports of the 26th October are the same object as 3/6/15. Those of 27th October were most likely high flying jet aircraft.
- Ref.* : 3/6/18 : High flying jet aircraft reflecting the sun.
- Ref.* : 3/6/19 : Probably the same event as 3/6/17.

A. R. PACE.

For Skywatchers and others a caravan has been sited at Warminster.

For bookings and information apply:—

MRS. M. CAREY,
61, Corton,
Nr. Warminster,
Wilts.

or for information only:—

MR. A. WEST,
49, Mill Road,
Burgess Hill,
Sussex.

STOP PRESS

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

By the time you read these words a very important Seminar will have taken place in Staffordshire. During the weekend of 22nd/23rd July, your Committee will have taken a long and thorough look at the past and present activities of the Association with the objective of adopting plans and proposals that will enable us all to further the aims and objectives of B.U.F.O.R.A. more fully and comprehensively in the future. All the proposals will be framed in the context of the Associations existing and potential resources, and, consequently, they will be designed to be practicable and to attract the enthusiastic support of all the members of our Association. B.U.F.O.R.A. is at a critical stage of its development where it needs the active interest and loyalty of you all. I do hope that the recent actions and improvements implemented by your Committee will inspire confidence and optimism that B.U.F.O.R.A. can have, with your help, an exciting and effective role to play in the coming months and years. Please look out for a bulletin regarding this very important development in due course.

ROGER H. STANWAY.

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS

Will members please note that Subscription Renewals are due on the 1st September. The N.E.C. would emphasize that prompt renewal aids in forward planning of Association activities. Thank You.

MEM. SEC.

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