
UFO TIMES

Number 5 January 1990

Special AGM Issue

ISSN 0958-4846



ABDUCTION

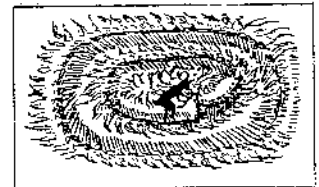
a creation of the subconscious mind?

INSIDE

John Spencer's views of the ever increasingly reported abduction experience have proved to be controversial. His latest paper is no exception.

BUFORA Ltd presents its 15th Annual report to the membership.

The 'Mowing Devil'



Has Jenny Randles unearthed a 17th Century Corn Circle? Read the latest research.

Plus.....
Skywatcher, News,
Letters and more.

A BUFORA PUBLICATION



COUNCIL 1988-89

PRESIDENT : Major Sir Patrick Wall,
MC VRD RM (Rtd)
VICE PRESIDENT : Lionel E. Beer, FRAS
FOUNDER PRESIDENT: G.F.N. Knewstubb, CEng FBIS
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN : Stephen Gamble, FIMLS AFBIS
VICE CHAIRMAN : John Spencer
TREASURER : Simon Rose

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Manfred Cassirer Jenny Randles
David Clarke Simon Rose
Paul Fuller Arnold West
Philip Mantle Michael Wootten

Consultants to Council: Hilary Evans, Ralph Noyes

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

James Danby,
16 Southway,
Burgess Hill,
Sussex, RH15 9ST
Tel (04446 6738)

SECRETARY TO COUNCIL

John Spencer,
16 Southway,
Burgess Hill,
Sussex, RH15 9ST

DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS

Mike Wootten,
103 Hove Avenue,
Walthamstow,
London,
E17 7NG

Grants are available (by referee) to any group or individual who wishes to professionally publish their research. Synopses should be sent to the Director of Publications

RESEARCH AND INVESTIGATION

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

Stephen Gamble,
16 Southway,
Burgess Hill,
Sussex,
RH15 9ST

DIRECTOR OF INVESTIGATIONS

Jenny Randles
37 Heathbank Road,
Cheadle Heath,
Stockport,
Cheshire, SK3 0UP

SECRETARY TO NIC

Philip Mantle,
1 Woodhall Drive,
Healey Lane,
West Yorkshire,
WF17 7SW

The National Investigations Committee co-ordinates investigation initiatives across the British Isles and acts as an open forum for any group or individual interested in the objective investigation of the UFO phenomenon. NIC meetings are held around the country. Dates and venues of these meetings can be obtained from the NIC Secretary. The NIC is funded by BUFORA and by donation.

Research Grants are available to any group or individual (subject to referee) who wishes to initiate objective research of the UFO phenomena. Details of these grants can be obtained from the Director of Research.

PRESS OFFICER

Philip Mantle,
1 Woodhall Drive,
Batley,
West Yorkshire,
WF17 7SW.

NEWSCLIPPING ARCHIVE

Michael Hudson,
71 Knight Avenue,
Canterbury,
Kent,
CT2 8PY



WITNESS CONFIDENTIALITY

The British UFO Research Association realises the importance of treating cases submitted to the Association by witnesses as confidential. In the light of this, the BUFORA Code of Practice has been devised and employed throughout the Association to guarantee that the utmost care is taken when dealing with witness personal details and case report material.

It is also the policy of UFO Times not to publish the names or addresses of witnesses who are not in the 'public domain'. The material and personal details of witnesses who have been published in the media will be treated with care and empathy by the editorship.

THE BRITISH UFO RESEARCH ASSOCIATION LIMITED

(by guarantee)

Founded 1964. Registered office, 16 Southway, Burgess Hill, Sussex, RH15 9ST. Registered in London; 12349924. Incorporating the London UFO Research Association (founded 1959) and the British UFO Association (founded 1962).

AIMS

1. To encourage, promote and conduct unbiased scientific research of unidentified flying object (UFO) phenomena throughout the United Kingdom.
2. To collect and disseminate evidence and data relating to unidentified flying objects (UFOs).
3. To co-ordinate UFO research throughout the United Kingdom and to co-operate with others engaged in such research throughout the world.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all who support the aims of the association and whose application is approved by the executive committee. Applications, forms and general information can be obtained from BUFORA's registered office.

MEMBER SOCIETIES & ASSOCIATE GROUPS

Includes Britain's oldest UFO group, BFSB. 3 Orchard Road, Coal Pit Heath, Bristol, Avon, BS17 2PB. Associate groups include: The Northamptonshire UFO Research Centre and Skyscan.

EDITOR

Mike Wootten,
103 Hove Avenue,
London,
E17 7NG
U.K.

ASSISTANT EDITORS

John Spencer
Andy Roberts
Ken Phillips

RESEARCH EDITOR

Steve Gamble

FEATURE EDITORS

Dave Clarke
Gary Anthony

OVERSEAS LIAISON

Hilary Evans

ARTIST

Edward Clark

(c) BUFORA Ltd 1989.

It is permissible for members to use material in this publication for their own personal use, provided it is done on a limited basis. Where material is used for publication, acknowledgement should be given to BUFORA and the appropriate contributor.

UFO TIMES

Number 5 January 1990

ISSN 0958-4846

Contents

4. Editorial
6. Witness Driven Investigation
John Spencer
13. UFOs Go to School
Philip Mantle
14. BUFORA Ltd: Annual Report
27. Skywatcher
Edited by Gary Anthony
30. The Hertfordshire Mowing Devil
Jenny Randles
33. Letters

Cover photo credit: Ann Spencer

Editorial

Into a New Decade

The 1980's have now drawn to a close and what a close. One wouldn't have thought that the end of the decade would have been so vividly marked with the freedom of eastern Europe from dogmatic and outdated dictatorial rule. With the opening of the eastern block we as ufologists have a role to play, not a large one, but at least a role. We have counterparts in these very countries who have been starved of information from the start of modern ufology in 1947, therefore it can only be right for us to make the effort to support them.

For example, I recently received a letter from a Russian ufologist stating that he wanted to exchange information with BUFORA and other UFO organisation in the free world. I have only had the letter loosely translated into English which is unfortunate as I would like to publish it in full in a future UFO Times (if anyone can translate Russian please contact me at the editorial address). However, I will publish his address at the end of this editorial. Write to him and show your ufological solidarity!

With the end of the decade, it is customary for many media sources to present endless reviews of the past ten years of every subject under the sun. I refuse to be the exception! So here is my brief and highly biased view of the past ten years of British ufology:

With the impact of the worldwide distribution of Close Encounters of the Third Kind dying down in 1980, the trend of thought for many researchers was that the extraterrestrial hypothesis was a dead duck. Many new theories and approaches to the subject emerged, i.e. Allan Hendry's UFO Handbook gave a

concise critique of the phenomenon and concluded "...I can only assert that it is my feeling that some UFO reports represent truly remarkable events ... and while science may be initiated by feelings, it cannot be based on them. Unless we develop **drastically** new ideas and methodologies for the study of the baffling UFO cases and the human context in which they occur, we will watch the next thirty years of UFO report gathering simply mirror the futility and frustration of the last thirty years."

Have we moved forward? To some degree I think we have. Efforts have been made in Britain to tidy up the act of UFO research. Witness confidentiality has improved, the need for detailed investigation that is analytical and well documented (with a distinct movement away from simply filling out a report form) has been realised as very important.

The psycho-social angle has and is continually being researched by Ken Phillips whose patience and dedication to the research of highly strange and bizarre cases that are sometimes reported by witnesses who have deep rooted psychological problems is to be applauded. The Anamnesis project owned by Ken along with Alex Keul showed convincingly that the witness portion of the UFO report equation was probably more important than the object reported. Strong correlations between witnesses of high strangeness cases and their high creative abilities were confirmed: a crucial discovery. Earthlights too was a hypothesis that in my opinion showed fresh thinking that was like a breath of clean air and will continue to show a strengthening relevance within the subject and will certainly not be a 'new age' fad of the eighties. Paul Devereux, Paul Mc Cartney, Andy Roberts

and Dave Clarke should also be applauded.

On the Publishing front, FSR still plods on (the least said the better). Probe magazine and BUFORA Journal ceased publishing but four new magazines came onto the scene BUFORA Bulletin which was replaced by UFO Times and UFO Brigantia which has proved to be an excellent magazine (a real ufologists UFO magazine), it isn't to everyone's taste but it certainly is a good read for me. Quest magazine (the in-house journal of YUFOS) also entered the UFO literary arena. A good read in parts but weighed onto the sensationalist tabloid side of the subject. Northern UFO News and Magonia have fulfilled their own styles of presenting UFO material and are still going strong to complete the varied selection of regular publications that are available in Britain today. Out of interest FSR cost £4.80 to subscribe to in 1980 and BUFORA membership cost £5.00

Unfortunately, the Sunday Sport rose its ugly behind in the eighties and cost ufology in the UK a great deal of credibility. Even those who had very little credibility to start with (I shall not name names as I will probably fall yet again into the ever popular litigation quagmire that has cast its shadow over British ufology in the waning part of the eighties). lost all

to the antics of 'the Sport'.

While British ufologist seemed to take stock of the words from Allan Hendry and moved on from there what did American ufology do. It got belief! With the publishing of Budd Hopkins and Whitley Strieber, the ever unfolding MJ-12 story and the anecdotal reminiscences of Roswell, ETH is alive and well over at uncle Sam's. It is certainly clear that the abduction experience is being pushed to extremes and thus a new mythology has been born. My only prediction for the nineties is that if we are not careful that mythology will swamp the British public and explode.

Turning to BUFORA. An organisation that was suffering in the early 1980's from recession and a decline in membership, that now goes into the 1990's with a growing and healthy membership, a strong international standing and the knowledge that it is the largest UFO research Association in the British Isles.

I hope that ufology in this country will continue to flourish and remain reasonably 'level headed' and I wish you well for the new decade to come.

Write to D.A. Smirnorf, USSR, 150052, Yaroslavl, Revolutionary Drive 6, Apartment 3.

UFOCALL 0898 12 18 86

'UFOCALL' is the first regularly updated national UFO news and information service: available by telephone, seven days a week.

The 'UFOCALL' service reports on the latest sightings of UFOs reported to BUFORA from around the British Isles and discusses current research of this most baffling phenomenon. General UFO news, book reviews and information on planned events will also be featured on 'UFOCALL'.

So make it a regular date to keep ahead of the headlines by calling 'UFOCALL'

J U S T D I A L A N D L I S T E N

calls per min 38p peak 25p standard

WITNESS DRIVEN INVESTIGATION

— Part 1 —

by John Spencer

The following is the text of a presentation made to the International London UFO Congress in July 1989.

In 1984 I published in BUFORA's Journal a critical review of the use of regression hypnosis based on three things:

- my own direct examination of practising hypnotherapists
- the use of regression hypnosis in other fields, such as the search for past lives histories, and
- motivations of investigators.

I was afraid that we were in danger of losing our common sense in dealing with abductions. Subsequent years have, to my mind, more than justified my fears.

In the past three decades, and particularly in the past decade there has been a great deal of effort by investigators and researchers worldwide, but particularly in America, towards an understanding of this phenomenon. Those engaged in this research claim that they seek two things:

- to understand the phenomenon, and
- to help witnesses.

Failing

I think for the most part these people are sincere in these claims, though there are obviously charlatans amongst them. However, even in the case of those who are sincere I believe they are failing in either quest; they are not getting to the truth behind the phenomenon, and they are not helping witnesses.

Naturally such claims must be justified. To do this, this paper will be in two parts; firstly I want to out-

line the claims of Betty and Barney Hill, and I want to present at least some of my own research which leads me to the conclusion that their abduction was not a reality, at least as we presently understand it.

Secondly, I want to ask you to assume that you accept my findings at least as a working hypothesis, and then we can consider what the implications are for UFOlogy and abduction research.

Although now a case clearly thirty years old, I believe, quite simply, that the Hill's abduction case holds a vital key - not to understanding the abduction phenomenon - but to understanding where present research may be going wrong.

The Hill's encounter is virtually the first abduction, and it was the first that used regression hypnosis. I am aware of Tujunga Canyon which predated it by eight years, in 1953, and that Budd Hopkins is now revealing a whole series of abductions going back into the forties, and perhaps earlier. However, Tujunga Canyon was claimed to have occurred in 1953 but the facts were not recalled and revealed until over a decade later, after Betty and Barney Hill had gone public with their own material. A similar point must be made with Budd Hopkins' cases, his revelations of abductions long ago were not made public until after 1980.

But let me stress, I am not arguing that there is no reality behind these events, I am arguing that bad investigation is hiding the reality.

Let us go back then to the events of

nearly thirty years ago. I will briefly summarise the case, though I assume it is fairly well known to us all by now, however I think it will be indicating a few points that are perhaps not well appreciated. In any event, I believe this one case to be so important that a clear understanding of certain aspects of it are vital.

On September 19th 1961 Betty and Barney Hill who had been holidaying in Canada decided to return to their New Hampshire home. As they drove near the village of Lancaster, Betty noticed a particularly bright light to the left of, and slightly below, the moon. Shortly afterwards she noticed that another bright light had appeared above the first and she was curious that this second light appeared to be getting bigger and brighter. She pointed this out to her husband who also observed it.

In the next period of the drive they watched the light apparently moving behind trees and mountain tops, but not until they stopped the car later on were they able to determine that it was actually moving. Betty picked up their binoculars with which to see the light better. At this point Barney was of the opinion that it was some kind of plane

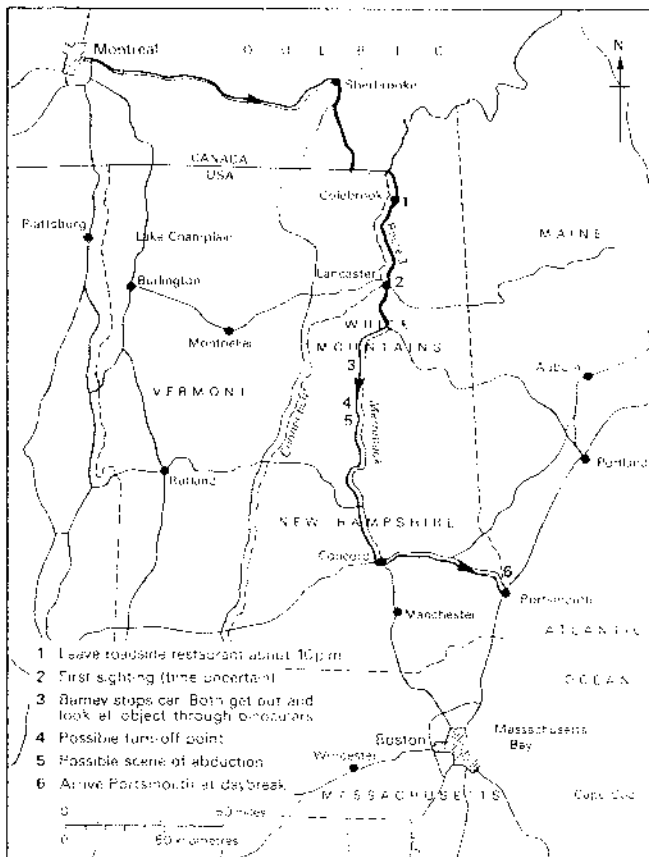
or helicopter.. At one point they reported that it crossed the face of the moon, which if correct would eliminate a whole class of astronomical answers.

They got back in the car and drove on at a very slow pace, watching the object, convinced that it was circling around them. Barney expressed concern because there were no other cars on the road and the object was making no sound.

Interesting point here.....Although witnesses to UFO abductions have often reported at this stage the onset of a sort of 'false isolation' from the real world, there is no need here to suppose that Betty and Barney Hill were experiencing this. The fact that there was no sound from the object could easily be a factor of wind speed and direction; the fact that there were no other cars on the road was quite typical for the area for that time of the year. It is interesting to consider, though, that the origin of this idea of 'false isolation' may arise from this description.

While the car was still moving, Betty put the binoculars to her eyes and saw that the object appeared to be an enormous structured craft. Barney stopped the car in the middle of the road and took the binoculars, then stepped a few feet away and observed the object. He walked across the road onto, and across, a field directly towards the object and to within fifty feet of it which by now had dropped down to the height of a tree. Betty stayed with the car.

Barney is now quite alone, in the dark, in the middle of a field. Through the binoculars he believed he could see at least a dozen people looking back at him from the vehicle. He became convinced - for no apparently logical reason - that he was about to be captured. He then ran back across the field to Betty and jumped into the car. They drove off down the road with Barney shouting he was sure they were going to be captured. Betty tried to see the light or the craft but could find neither. At some point they heard a beeping noise, felt a tingling tiredness come over them and apparently they drowsed.



Later in the drive they recalled a further set of beeping sounds; they were aware of no actual gap between the two, only an apparent awareness that there were two distinct periods of this sound.

Betty and Barney eventually reached home, but it was not at this point that they recalled the fact that they seemed to have arrived home late. It was when they were discussing events with a team of investigators that the question arose, which was on November 25th - some two months after the event.. One of the investigators pointed out that the time taken to cover the distance didn't seem to add up. Barney reacts to this question by saying "To think that I realised for the first time that at the rate of speed I always travel we should have arrived home at least two hours earlier than we did". Another interesting point here then.....Do we hear now the birth of the 'missing time' element of abductions?

Fired Interest

Betty's interest in the subject was fired by these events and two days after the sighting she went to the library to collect as much information as possible on UFOs. She is known to have read a book by Major Donald Keyhoe 'The Flying Saucer Conspiracy'. She apparently read this at a single sitting which shows her growing passion for the subject. Keyhoe's book makes clear that of the two hypotheses he considers to be most likely, he ranks highest that people are in fact seeing structured vehicles. Inspired by this book, and other reading, she wrote to Major Keyhoe just one week after the sighting on September 26th, 1961. Her letter to the Major gives many more details than had previously been outlined. John G Fuller - the author of the book on their case - explains this as "As Betty Hill's confidence increased through her study of the NICAP material so did her willingness to reveal more of the details". This could be so but we must fairly consider the alternative possibility that she was beginning to subconsciously feed into her own recollections some of the data she had picked up from her reading.

This is not at all to suggest that at

any time Betty Hill was lying about her memories of the events; indeed I am satisfied from my own talks with her - and from everything I have read and studied about her - that she is completely sincere. Other parties close to this couple have also stressed their good character. However, her recollection was certainly unclear which is after all the basis of the investigation and her manner was excited; further she had expressed her belief in UFOs as extraterrestrial vehicles and it was certainly possible that what she believed to be her recollections were being amended by the material she was reading.

Just three days after writing the letter to Major Keyhoe and therefore ten days after the sighting and after reading considerable UFO-related material, Betty had a series of vivid dreams which lasted for five nights. It is vital to remember that there is no question that these were dreams. Whatever might have inspired them the fact is that the first knowledge of the abduction came through this series of dreams.

Hauled

These dreams gave the details of the abduction encounter, that is: of being stopped by the landed UFO, of being hauled aboard the craft and subjected to medical examination. It is vital to remember, whatever the source of the original stimulus, that these dreams occurred after her fears - and they had become fears - had possibly been heightened by the reading of NICAP and other material. That these dreams reflected her fears rather than her experiences is one possibility that has to be considered in any objective study. This was Dr. Simon's strongest belief also.

Before the first hypnotic regression session with Dr. Simon, where the abduction material was to be revealed, it is clear that she had, by then, communicated the substance of the dreams to Barney. In one session with the doctor, Barney says "She told me a great many of the details of the dreams" and also "I would be listening as she told this to Walter Webb. When it occurred to

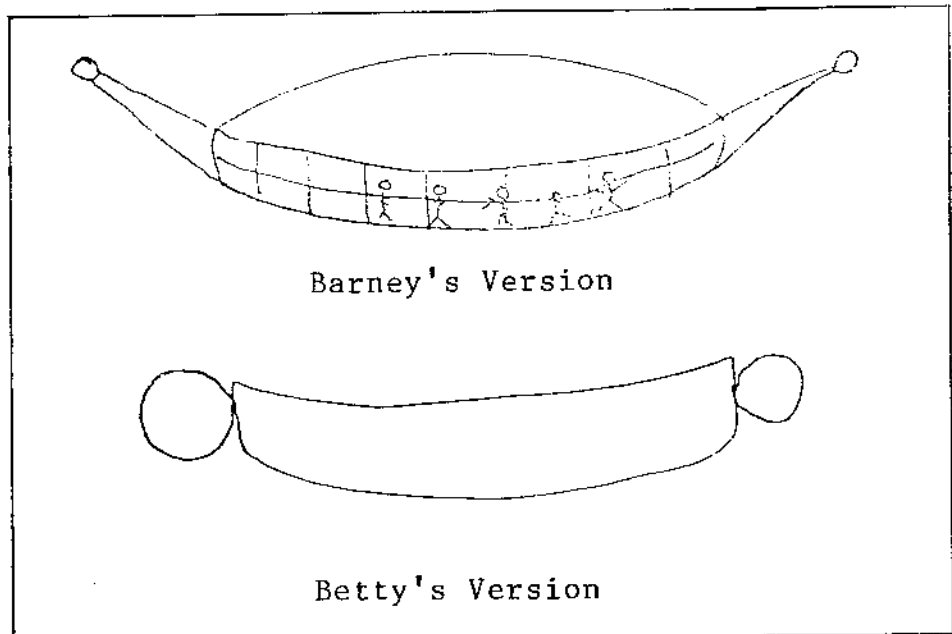
Betty that the dreams might reflect real events is uncertain though it appears she discussed it at work. The doctor himself noted after one session with Betty "There are definite indications that her dreams had been suggested as a reality by her supervisor".

So an important fact we have to look at at this stage is that Betty and Barney Hill are not a pair of witnesses to the same experience perceived in the same mind. It is often held that they

represent a corroborated sighting; an encounter they both shared. In fact at this stage as we can see they have shared almost nothing together: they both saw the light from inside the car and they both saw it apparently reveal itself to be a large object closer to the car. This is reasonable since it seems highly likely that there was some physical stimulus for their experience, indeed there was a radar trace of it at a nearby Air Force base. However, Betty stayed in the car while Barney ran into the fields to examine the vehicle more closely; Betty's drawing of the craft shows no detail and particularly no occupants whereas Barney's does from his much closer perspective; Betty alone had the nightmares which she independently related to her husband and Betty alone seems to have been inspired to follow up the experience with learning about the subject of UFOs. They were together that night but very little of their experience then or subsequently was shared except in the broadest of terms.

Regression

We must move on then to February 22nd 1964 - two and a half years after the sighting - when Barney undergoes his first regression hypnosis session following a series of inductions. Barney's recollections at this stage are - broadly speaking - recollections of non-abduction events relating to the UFO sighting. This session also involved Barney recalling many impressions which



Barney's Version

Betty's Version

are clearly dream-like in nature and which point to the possibility of some fantasy elements; at one time he says "I'm just suspended. I'm just floating about". This is quite typical of dream material, and if it were held to be a memory of some levitation then this in fact contradicts later recollections when the aliens are held to have physically hauled Barney stumbling along the ground; indeed the scuffed tops of his shoes are held to be physical evidence of the event. So there appears to be at least some dream-like material.

Barney's second regression session was on 29th February and in this Barney recalled for the first time in organised detail the encounter on the road later when the humanoids stopped his car near their landed craft and took him and his wife to the UFO. After this session Barney began having 'peculiar' dreams, dreaming for the first time in his life about UFOs. Either the hypnosis was bringing memory to the surface, or it was beginning to create fantasies that were spilling over into memory.

The following week, on March 7th, Betty had her first regression session. She had taken with her the notes of her dreams, but these were not shown to Dr. Simon as it was felt better not to influence him with their content. This was an important, and correct, decision. That Betty's eventual recall mirrored the dreams so exactly - whatever the implications of that for ufology - is a tribute to the professionalism of the

doctor.

In her first session Betty revealed a curious point in her recollection, she says, "and I could see a double row of windows" during her report of the object in flight. In Betty's sketch made before the session she does not draw any such feature, though Barney does. (See figure 1 drawn by John Spencer based on the original). Some material seems to have slipped back from Barney to his wife, or perhaps in the recollection she is recalling from her memory of Barney's sketch. Either way, her recollections are inconsistent so the data is being corrupted somewhere.

Alien Grasp of English?

The most important material to arise from this session relates to Betty's conversations with the aliens. We see how inconsistent their own use and understanding of the language seems to be. At this stage they apparently have a very 'human' grasp of idioms and of underlying meaning to words and phrases. They say, "You'll be on your way back home in no time.", also "The longer you fool around out here, the longer it's going to take. You might as well go on and get it over with and get back to your car. We haven't got much time, either." Later, "Barney will be all right.....as soon as we get through..."



Betty Hill

Now many of these phrases have no real

meaning at face value, and are in fact poor use of language. They are, of course, perfectly useful and sensible phrases provided that they convey meaning and they would do to someone used to using the same language style. Phrases like 'in no time' only make sense at a deeper level of understanding, they are illogical at face value. Similarly, 'get it over with', 'get through' and others. The argument could be put that if these aliens have been studying Earth closely for thousands of years, as some suspect, then they might well have learnt all levels of meaning of our language. Why then do we later hear the aliens, during Betty's next session, asking "What are vegetables?", and "What is yellow?" This suggests a good deal less understanding than the former phrases. Why, then, this inconsistency? A number of possibilities exist, but they rule out the likelihood that Betty was hearing the actual voices of actual aliens. Assuming that the aliens existed anywhere outside Betty's mind then some sort of telepathic transfer of thought would possibly explain this; they could transfer the impressions of such meanings as 'in no time' which could be translated into the actual words by the human recipient. On the other hand they could transmit clear questions where they lacked understanding. A more simple explanation exists however and we should look to this before leaping for the exotic, as J Allen Hynek was always at pains to stress. Betty could simply be using her own idiomatic language because she is recalling her own fantasies, and makes the aliens speak exactly as she would speak. Why then questions such as 'What are vegetables?'. We know that she believes in the reality of the events, and we know that she is thinking of an extraterrestrial answer. She has already made this clear to the Doctor. Is it possible that her subconscious needed to make the aliens more alien in order to reinforce her own beliefs? Could she need them to ask questions that betray their lack of understanding and therefore reveal their 'true' origins?

There are other examples of apparently inconsistent material in the recall; the aliens are seemingly amazed when they discover that Barney's teeth are false, and removable, and indeed they try to

remove Betty's natural - and unremovable - teeth; yet they apparently remove Betty's dress very easily by undoing the zipper at the back which as any fumbling teenager will admit takes some practice. Their inconsistencies in knowledge seem almost stage-managed.

We must, then, consider the implications of this analysis of the Betty and Barney Hill case. Although there are several possibilities about the true nature of the evidence we can probably dismiss any suggestion that the Hills deliberately lied - there is no evidence to support this and every reason to deny it; we can regard as unlikely the possibility of dual hallucination, which Dr. Simon also thought improbable. In fact we don't need that explanation because we know Betty told Barney all the dream material in detail anyway.

One possibility is that the event actually happened; that the Hills encountered a spacecraft from another world whose occupants abducted them. Given the contradictory points raised, and a great deal more relating to the social and cultural background of the events which I cannot set out in this short presentation, I find this alternative unlikely. I should in fairness point out though that I put this to Betty Hill last December and she was adamant that the event had actually occurred. She made a surprising point though; to my suggestion that abduction reports perhaps could be explained as being of psychological origin she said she thought many of the recent reports probably were.

A Non-Reality

For my part I think the balance of evidence suggests that the experience was basically a non-reality. Certainly they appear to have encountered a UFO during their drive, which could have been natural or terrestrial, but the exotic material of the abduction appears to be hypnotic regression drawing out the substance of vivid nightmares suffered by Betty and related to Barney. This appears to be Dr. Simon's view; "The doctor believed this (abduction reality) to be too improbable, and much

material was similar to dream material."

There are other reasons for believing that the Hill's experience may not have been objectively real:

We have touched on the recall containing what Simon himself described as Dream-like material (floating sensations, disconnected 'eyes' feelings of telepathic content, lack of personal control over events, and a host of other minor details).

There is also the physical evidence that at no time corroborates the abduction, and sometimes contradicts it:

- the radar trace confirms the UFO in the air but tells us nothing about what it did landed, or indeed whether it landed.

- Barney's scuffed shoes which are held to represent his being dragged into the UFO contradict what seems to be his recall of being levitated by the aliens.

- the broken binocular strap when Barney ran back from the field indicates that he may genuinely have fled from something in fear, but fear is an emotion not a recall, and we have no proof of what generated fear in him although we know he was highly suggestible and alone in pitch darkness in a wilderness confronting some object of which he had already started to form negative opinions.

- The recall of the use of the aliens use of language is inconsistent, as we looked at earlier.

- the shiny spots on the car body that so interested the researchers in fact have no direct corroboration with the sighting, even less with the abduction.

- The famous disorientations in space and time - the missing time period - was not recognised until investigators started going over the details months later, it had not been so dramatic as to be apparent to the Hills at the time.

- the warts that arose on Barney's body are held to be evidence of a physical event, yet even he himself admitted he understood they could be a psychosomatic

reaction to fear, and they were inflamed two and half years later during the regression sessions which proves at least some truth in this statement since there was presumably no re-visitation of the aliens at that time to inflame them.

So why all this emphasis on the Hill case? because I believe it to be the key case in abduction material. And let me suggest a sweeping possibility: that virtually all investigated abductions since have taken their facts from versions and corruptions of the Hill's case; they are copies of this original.

Confirmations

To begin with let us highlight some of the things we know to be facts. I should point out that I have personally confirmed them with Mrs. Hill although they are generally well known and accepted

Firstly, we can be reasonably certain that the Hill's encountered some sort of object during their drive; it was tracked by radar at the Pease Air Force Base, and was seen in reasonable conditions for an extended duration by both Betty and Barney Hill who independently drew reasonably similar enough objects.

Secondly, we know for certain that the abduction was not recalled at the same time, and in the same manner, as the UFO sighting.

Thirdly, we know for certain that the Hills did not recognise the missing time period until it was pointed out to them by an investigator some months later.

Fourthly, we know for certain that the 'research' into the abduction did not start until two and half years later, and that between the time of the event and the time of the regression hypnosis sessions Betty Hill had read a great deal of material on UFOs, lectured to UFO groups, and discussed the subject at length with members of her family. She read NICAP material in detail, and one of Major Keyhoe's books in one sitting.

Fifthly, we know for certain that ten days after the events, when she had

already started reading this material, she had a series of vivid dreams. We know that the regression hypnosis was to reveal a story that paralleled these dreams almost exactly. We further know that although Barney's recall under hypnotic regression was corroborative, Betty had told him over and over, for two years, the content of her dreams so he was as armed with the story-line as she was.

Interestingly, we also know that this one case contains ALL the main components of future abduction claims: missing time, dislocation in space, the feeling of false isolation from the world during the encounter, the medical examination and genetic study during the abduction, and so on.

What we do not know is whether or not Betty's dreams were a fantasy generated by anxiety and a fearful story picked up by her highly intelligent but very impressionable husband, or whether they were memories. Dr. Simon who spent years working with the Hills believed that the events related by each of them were not objectively real, they were real only in a personal sense to the Hills. Simon warned "It must be understood that hypnosis is a pathway to the truth as it is felt and understood by the patient. The truth is what he believes to be the truth, and this may or may not be consonant with the ultimate nonpersonal truth." (my emphasis)

I hope I have offered at least enough food for thought on this because I want us to continue now on the assumption that the Hill's encounter was in fact a non-reality. It was Betty's dreams, and her anxieties, brought to the surface by hypnosis undertaken to relieve her of tensions. As I have been able to present only part of my research into this and comparative cases I accept that I have not - here - proved my case. I believe that such a case exists however.

Now, if we accept the non-reality of the abduction then we have a major hurdle to jump now - why have years of similar reports from all over the world revealed similar - strikingly similar - stories? Let us be clear about the implications of what is being indicated here: the Hill's case was effectively

the first case of abduction, the Hill's case contains such elements as Missing Time - yet if the case was a non-reality then why do subsequent cases also contain Missing Time? The Hill's case may contain elements of 'false isolation', yet if the case was a non-reality then why do subsequent cases also contain this element? The Hill's case contains the Medical Examination, yet if the case was a not a reality then why do subsequent cases also contain this detail? The Hill's case contains

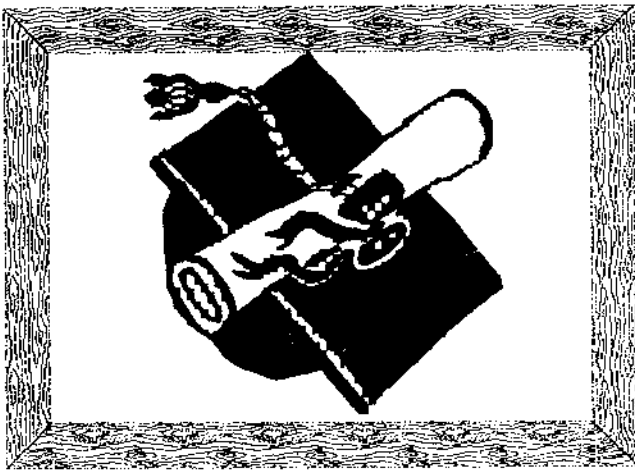
elements of 'Genetic Manipulation', yet again if this case was a non-reality why do subsequent cases also contain this subject? If witnesses aren't lying - and I don't believe they are lying - then what is the truth, because they can't all be sharing Betty's dream, can they?

Well, in fact, I think they are.

Part two of John Spencer's paper will be published in the next issue of UFO Times.

UFOs go to School

by Philip Mantle



From September through to November of this year (1989) Philip Mantle and Andy Roberts were the course tutors of a 10 week evening class entitled: UFO'S: FACT OR FICTION ? The course was held at the Adult Education Centre at Ossett School in West Yorkshire which is part of Wakefield District College.

The course covered a wide range of topics from abductions to cover-ups with a different item being discussed each week. Students of all ages and from many different backgrounds attended the course and we were pleased to see a high

percentage of female students attend. The course was intended as a pilot scheme to see if such a thing was viable. I'm glad to say that both the course tutors, the college and the students were more than happy with the result of the course, so much so that another is planned for 1990.

This next course, again held at the Adult Education Centre, Ossett School, Storrs Hill Road, Ossett, West Yorkshire, will take place on Saturday 24th of February and Saturday 3rd of March. Both sessions will run from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm with an hour for lunch. The cost of enrolment is £8.00 for the two sessions. The theme of the course is: UFO CLOSE ENCOUNTERS. Close encounter cases of various kinds will be examined from different parts of the world and all who attend will be given the opportunity to speak to close encounter witness Rita Gould. Rita has had numerous experiences down the years including an abduction account and this will be an ideal opportunity for interested parties to speak to her face to face.

There is the possibility of at least one other close encounter witness attending the course and we will also have at least one invited guest speak who will offer a different and perhaps unique look at abduction accounts. This course is open to anyone from any part of the country and your support for it would be greatly appreciated. Anyone wishing to participate in the course either as a student or offering to present a lecture should contact:

Philip Mantle, 1 Woodhall Drive, Healey Lane, Batley West Yorkshire, WF17 7SW. Tele: (0924) 444049.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF BUFORA LTD.

The FIFTEENTH Annual General Meeting of BUFORA Ltd will be held at THE LONDON BUSINESS SCHOOL, REGENTS PARK, LONDON NW1. in the LECTURE THEATRE at 6-30pm on SATURDAY 3rd MARCH 1990 to receive the Chairmans Report, the Report of the Council of Management, the Accounts of the Treasurer, and to appoint the Auditor according to the Articles of the Association.

Signed on behalf of the Council of Management

..........Chairman

28th December 1989

NOTE: Please note that a Member entitled to attend and vote at this meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy who need not be a member of the Company to attend and vote in his or her stead. Instruments of proxy must be lodged at the Company's registered address, 16 Southway, Burgess Hill, Sussex RH15 9ST., not less than forty-eight hours before the time appointed for the meeting. Members wishing to nominate persons for election to the Council of Management shall give to the Secretary such nominations in writing, signed by the person proposed, stating his or her willingness to be elected, not less than four, nor more than twenty-eight clear days before the time appointed for the meeting in accordance with Section 52 of the Articles of Association.

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 3rd March 1990
AGENDA

- 1/ Notice convening the Meeting
- 2/ Minutes of the FOURTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
- 3/ Presidents Address
- 4/ Chairmans Report
- 5/ Treasurers Report
- 6/ Director of Research Report
- 7/ Director of Investigations Report
- 8/ Director of Publications Report
- 8/ Adoption of the Report of the Council of Management, of the Report of the Auditor, and of the Accounts for the year ended 31st August 1989.
- 9/ Appointment of the Auditor, and leave for the Council to fix his remuneration.
- 10/ Appointment of Members of Council. Under Sections 49 and 50 of the Articles of Association, the following Members of Council are retiring by rotation

David Clarke, Stephen Gamble, Phillip Mantle and Arnold West

MINUTES OF THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, held in the Lecture Theatre of The London Business School on Saturday 4th March 1989

- 1/ At 18:32 the chairman Mr Arnold West opened the meeting. Mr West read the notice convening the Meeting. He stated that no proxy votes had been received .

Apologies were received from Major Sir Patrick Wall.

- 2/ Minutes of the Previous meeting

As the minutes of the thirteenth Annual General Meeting had been previously circulated Mr West asked if these could be taken as read. This was passed unanimously.

- 3/ The President

Unfortunately the President, Major Sir Patrick Wall was unable to be present at the meeting. He had sent an address to the meeting which was read on his behalf by Mr Spencer. [This address has been published in full in UFO Times Number 1]

- 4/ Chairmans Report

Mr West's report had been previously circulated, so he would confine his comments to updating the situation since it was written.

The Council has decided to combine both of the Associations journals into one new publication called the UFO Times. Mr Wootten would have more to say about this later in the meeting.

In closing, Mr West said he would like to record his appreciation to all the investigators, researchers and supporters of the Association, but would particularly like to note the contributions of Bob Holland in running the information service and Bob Digby for organising the Congress.

- 5/ Treasurers Report

After a brief introduction to his report and the Accounts Simon Rose, the treasurer, offered to deal with any questions.

- 6/ Director of Research Report

Since the previously published report had been written, there was little extra to add.

Mr Gamble wished to add his thanks to all the people who had helped the research department over the previous year

- 7/ Director of Investigations Report

The Director of Investigations report had been previously published. There were no further questions.

- 8/ Director of Publications

Mike Wootten reported that it had been a good year for BUFORA publications. Sales of our two books ("UFOs 1947-87" and "Phenomenon") were going well. A new magazine

called "UFO Times" would be issued from May replacing both the BUFORA Bulletin and the Journal of Transient Aerial Phenomena.

9/ Report of Council

This had been previously published, so Mr West would confine his comments to clarify the published report.

10/ Adoption of the Report of the Council of Management, of the Report of the Auditor, and of the Accounts for the year ended 31st August 1988.

As there were no further questions, the Chairman asked the meeting to approve the reports of the Council and Auditor and the Accounts.

This was carried unanimously.

11/ Amendment of the Articles of Association.

Mr West introduced two motions to amend the Articles of Association.

The first motion modified article 8 to add the words "including the current Code of Practice for Investigators" after the bye-laws of the Association. After a short discussion this was approved. The new article 8 now reads "Every member shall be bound to further to the best of his ability the objects and interests of the Association, and shall observe all regulations and bye-laws of the Association, including the current Code of Practice for Investigators, made pursuant to the powers in that behalf vested in the Council as hereinafter mentioned.

The second motion renumbered the existing paragraph 11 to be 11a and added paragraph 11b which made the annual renewal of membership at the discretion of the Council. In reply to a question Mr West stated that the wording did not require Council to inform a person why their renewal had been rejected. After a short discussion this was approved.

12/ Appointment of the Auditor, and leave for the Council to fix his remuneration.

As a point of information Mr Spencer confirmed that the current auditor, Mr O'Brien had indicated his willingness to continue.

Arnold West proposed and John Spencer seconded that Council be given leave to appoint the auditor and fix his remuneration. Passed unanimously.

13/ Election of Council

Mr West reported that it was necessary to vote to appoint five members of Council. The following Members of Council were retiring by rotation : Mr Cassirer, Mr Spencer, Mr Wootten and Miss Randles. All had indicated their willingness to be re-elected.

A further nomination had been received for Paul Fuller, a member of both the research and investigation teams. Paul had been proposed and seconded, and had indicated his willingness to stand. These nominations were put to the vote and approved.

14/ Close of Meeting

There being no further business the Chairman thanked the members for attending and closed the meeting at 19:15.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 1988-89

It is often said that we live in exciting times. Certainly that is the case in BUFORA, over the past year there have been many and rapid developments. Obviously it would be impossible to deal with everything in this report which must necessarily be a summary. I would refer you to the Report of the Council and the Reports of the Directors of Investigations, Publications and Research who will deal in more detail with some of these activities. You will notice that there has been an approximately 10% increase in membership numbers over the previous year, this is very encouraging.

This is my first report as Chairman. Unfortunately our previous Chairman, Arnold West, had to stand down during the course of the year. Arnold has been one of the longer serving of our Chairmen, having held this position for some five years. It was only after I stepped into the hot seat in June that I realised fully what an onerous task it was! I am fortunate that Arnold is continuing to operate the registered office and still deals with a number of other jobs. I am sure I reflect the views of the membership when I thank Arnold for his all his hard work, and wish him the best for the future.

During March a planning meeting was held with members of the Council, investigations and research committees present. The purpose of this meeting was to define short and medium term objectives for BUFORA. It was felt that our library and case reports needed to have wider accessibility. This could be best accomplished by centralising them. Many of the routine administrative tasks could be better handled at a central headquarters. It was agreed that we should aim to establish a central headquarters, ultimately manned full time which would house our libraries and would deal with routine administrative matters. We also decided that we should consider again applying for charitable status. These recommendations have been taken on board by your Council.

Apart from its usual work in the fields of investigation and research, BUFORA has been very active at forming links with other UK groups. Some of these links have resulted in joint meetings, some of which appear in the 1989/90 lecture programme. We are actively pursuing other regional events either in collaboration with other groups or as sole ventures.

One of the highlights of the past year for many people would have been the International Congress held at the London Business School in July. Not only did this provide the opportunity to meet other researchers from throughout the world, it also provided the chance for many useful research contacts to be made. The Congress and the associated meeting of the International Committee for UFO Research increased BUFORA's international standing further.

In November 88 several members including myself attended a conference in Brussels. Not only were there a couple of presentations by BUFORA members, but two of the four sessions were also chaired by BUFORA members.

To coincide with the International Congress we declared National UFO Week and arranged a number of press releases and interviews. This provided an opportunity to publicize our new regular publication "UFO Times" which was launched in May under the editorship of Mike Wootten. This replaces both the BUFORA Bulletin and the Journal of Transient Aerial Phenomena. UFO Times now gives us a quality publication which compares well with, as they say, the best of the rest.

Also launched during the year was the UFOCALL hotline. This carries up to the date

BUFORA LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST AUGUST 1989

**31st August
1988**

£	£		£	£
	710	FIXED ASSETS - Equipment		710
		CURRENT ASSETS		
254		Bank	1,620	
985		Deposit Account	1,025	
1,175		Debtors and payments in advance	650	
-----			-----	
	2,414			3,295
		CURRENT LIABILITIES		
516		Sundry creditors	560	
623		Subscriptions in advance	1,621	
-----			-----	
	(1,139)			(2,181)
	-----			-----
£ 1,985			£ 1,824	
	=====		=====	

represented by:


	GENERAL FUND	
2,847	Balance brought forward	1,985
(862)	Excess of expenditure for year	(161)
-----		-----
£ 1,985		£ 1,824
		=====

Approved by the Council of Management:


S Gamble

Chairman

J L Spencer A.C.A.

Director. 

BUFORA LIMITED

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 1989

**31st August
1988**

£	£		£	£
		INCOME:		
2,720		Subscriptions	4,104	
247		Donations	282	
673		Publications	1,626	
280		Sundry sales	108	
45		Conference	-	
164		Building Society interest (net)	40	
-----			-----	
	4,129			6,160
		EXPENDITURE:		
3,278		Publications	4,012	
724		Stationery and administration	1,159	
956		Research and investigation	954	
504		Lecture costs	713	
(606)		Lecture income	(594)	

			119	
20		Registration	20	
115		Audit fee	57	
-----			-----	
	4,991			6,321
	-----			-----
	£ (862)			£ (161)
	=====			=====

Note:

The Company is limited by guarantee and in the event of winding up the liability of each member would be limited to £1

BUFORA LIMITED

information about meetings, case reports and other items of UFOlogical interest. UFOCALL proved to be valuable for providing up to the date information about the Congress and other events of UFO Week.

One of the other events of National UFO Week was the publication of our "Controversy of the Circles" written by Paul Fuller and Jenny Randles. This detailed report on BUFORA's investigations into this phenomenon has been highly successful, being on its third printing already. This work has also lead to a number of useful contacts in the scientific community.

This year also saw the publication by Avon of the North American edition of BUFORA's book "Phenomenon". Sales of the UK edition published last year by MacDonalds and Futura continue well. Together with the publication of the "UFO Lexicon" this will increase still further BUFORA's international standing.

Obviously things have not stood still since the end of the 1988/89 year. I hope to have (indeed know already of) many more exciting items to relate to you in my next years report.

Regretfully as I write this report I must inform members, as this may have a material effect on the balance sheet for the current year (1989/90), that the Association is under threat of legal action. This arises from the publication of an interview with a member in a regional newspaper. In the article it mentions that the member is an officer of BUFORA. At no point in the article does it state that the member is expressing the views of BUFORA or acting as a spokesman for BUFORA.

The complainant feels that the article is defamatory and that the member was acting as an agent of BUFORA. Council has pointed out to the complainant that the member was not in this instance acting as BUFORA's agent and hopes that our statements of non-involvement can resolve this without the complainant wishing to take the Association to court. Council have taken legal advice and believe any action against the Association is unlikely to succeed. Unfortunately should it come to a court case, if BUFORA does not defend against the action it seems to be taken as an admission of guilt. Should we be forced to defend the Association in court it is likely that legal costs can be covered from our reserves. If at all possible Council will attempt to recover our costs.

Whilst it is hoped that these difficulties can be resolved amicably in the near future without having to defend a court action it is my duty to advise members of the possible outcomes of any court case. Firstly BUFORA could be found innocent and costs awarded against the complainant. This still would have cost the Association many hours of the Council and other officers time which could have been spent in researching UFO's. Secondly BUFORA could be found innocent but costs not awarded. Most of the Associations financial reserves would be used up and this could set back UFO research in the UK by many years. Finally BUFORA could be found guilty (even though we are innocent) and damages awarded against BUFORA. Depending on the level of damages awarded it might be necessary to wind up BUFORA Ltd. In this event each members liability would be limited to £1. I would repeat that this is an unlikely outcome.

In closing I would like to summarise that things are looking generally good for BUFORA. There is just this one cloud in an otherwise very beautiful sky. All these achievements would not be possible without the support of BUFORA's members and friends, particularly the members of Council, other officers, investigators and researchers.

S.J.Gamble, Chairman.

December 1989.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT FOR TWELVE MONTHS

ENDED 31st AUGUST 1989

- 1/ This report and the attached set of documents cover the period from 1st September 1988 to 31st August 1989
- 2/ The attached set of accounts show the state of the Company's affairs at 31st August 1989. Please refer to the Treasurers Report for details.
- 3/ The principal activities of the Company during the financial year have been to encourage, promote and conduct unbiased scientific research of unidentified flying object (UFO) phenomena throughout the United Kingdom, and to co-operate with others engaged on such work throughout the world.

The Company continues to be registered with the Data Protection Registrar.

- 4/ The membership of the Company at 31st August 1989 was 317 (288 at 31st August 1988). The registered membership of the Company is 550.
- 5/ PUBLIC MEETINGS - Public lectures were presented at the LONDON BUSINESS SCHOOL from September to June. Our thanks to Manfred Cassirer for his continued efforts to organise these interesting and well attended events.
- 6/ CONFERENCE - The Association, together with the Mutual UFO Network and the International Committee for UFO Research, sponsored the INTERNATIONAL UFO CONGRESS held at the LONDON BUSINESS SCHOOL between 14th and 16th JULY 1989. Council extend their thanks to the organisers, particularly Robert Digby who headed the team. Preliminary plans are underway for a similar event in July 1991.
- 7/ INVESTIGATIONS - see separate Director of Investigations report attached
- 8/ RESEARCH - see separate Director of Research report attached
- 9/ PUBLICATIONS - see Director of Publications report attached
- 10/ TRAINING - No specific training activities were held this year. Development of the long hoped for Correspondence Course has been further delayed.
- 11/ COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT - The following members constituted the COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT at 31st August 1989:

David Clarke, Manfred Cassirer, Paul Fuller, Stephen Gamble, Phillip Mantle, Jenny Randles, Simon Rose, John Spencer, Arnold West and Mike Wootten.

During the course of the year Andy Roberts, who stood down in August, has also served as a member of the Council of Management.

No member of Council received any remuneration for services rendered during the year.

Council wishes to express its appreciation of the help, advice and assistance given by James Danby (Membership Secretary) during the year.

Under Sections 49 and 50 of the Articles of Association, the following Council Members are retiring by rotation:

David Clarke, Stephen Gamble, Phillip Mantle and Arnold West

who being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

..........Chairman

TREASURER'S REPORT 1989

As Honorary Treasurer, I duly present to you the Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts for the past twelve months. You will note that our income has exceeded expenditure. This has been partly due to a successful congress whereby we recovered BUFORA's contribution, plus the 'phenomenal success of all BUFORA's publications especially 'Controversy of the Circles'.

However, our expenses have been very high, notably the cost of the Newsclipping service which has risen to just under £900.00. This subject is still capturing the interest of the public and the press.

Subscriptions have remained steady, and this year the lecture programme has paid for itself, which is extremely pleasing.

We finish this financial year with a slightly healthier balance at both the bank and the building society, which gives me considerable hope for the future.

My only message to the members of BUFORA is that we must all continue to strive to increase the membership base upon which the organisation depends.

Simon Rose
Hon. Treas.

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR TO THE MEMBERS YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 1989

I have audited the financial statements as published in the Official Bufora Annual Report 1989. The audit was conducted in accordance with approved Auditing Standards having regard to the matters referred to in the following paragraph.

In common with many businesses of similar size and organisation the company's system of control is dependant upon the close involvement of the directors. Where independent confirmation of the completeness of the accounting records was not available I have accepted assurances from the directors that all the company's transactions have been reflected in the records.

Subject to the foregoing, in my opinion the financial statements, which have been prepared under the historic cost convention, give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs at 31st August 1989 and of its result for the year then ended and comply with the Company's Act 1985

N O'Brien, F.C.A.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT.

REPORT OF THE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT FOR PERIOD ENDED 31/8/89.

- 1) During this period S.Gamble has continued in the capacity of Director of Research.
- 2) The primary work of the department has been concerned with the dual objectives of research into UFO and associated phenomena, and the technical support of field investigations.
- 3) During the year two meetings of the research committee were held. In addition, representatives of the research department attended meetings of the national investigations committee.
- 4) Mike Hudson has continued work on the computerised indexing of case reports. Some additional preparatory coding of cases has also been undertaken by Ernest Still, Raymond Shaw, Andy Roberts and Philip Mantle

Steve Gamble has started investigation into transfer of data from Campbell Systems "Masterfile" database on the Sinclair Spectrum onto an expanded "Masterfile" system running on the Amstrad PCW range.
- 5) Paul Fuller has continued his work into circular damage to fields of cereal crops. Regular updates on the progress of this work have appeared in BUFORA publications. He has been assisted by several BUFORA members, for example Ernest Still, Clive Potter and Raymond Shaw were involved in the investigations of crop damage in Northamptonshire and Leicestershire.
- 6) During the course of the year Nigel Smith had to stand down as head of the photographic and traces group. He has published a two part report on his photographic investigations in the "UFO Times". Roger Chinery has succeeded Nigel as co-ordinator and has been assisted in photographic analysis by Steve Gamble.
- 7) The department has continued to monitor use of computers for UFO research. This is monitored by Paul Fuller using forms previously published in both BUFORA BULLETIN and JTAP.
- 8) Two issues of the Journal of Transient Aerial Phenomena have been issued during the year. The March 1989 issue was the last issue in this series. JTAP was merged with the BUFORA Bulletin to form the "UFO Times" with effect from May 1989.
- 9) Ken Phillips has continued work on establishing a translators panel.
- 10) Mike Wootten, assisted by Gaynor Sunderland, has continued work on refurbishing the case report files. A decision was taken to centralise reports held by all BUFORA officers.
- 11) A joint research project with the Northamptonshire UFO Research Centre to form an extensive catalogue of UFO reports from Northamptonshire was initiated during the year.
- 12) The following people have assisted Steve Gamble in the work of the research department : Manfred Cassirer, Roger Chinery, James Danby, Robert Digby, Paul Fuller, Brendon Gregory, Mike Hudson, Robin Lindsey, Philip Mantle, Ralph Noyes, Ken Phillips, Raymond Shaw, Nigel Smith, Ernest Still, Gaynor Sunderland, Mike Wootten and Arnold West.

Director of Investigations Report

During the year, the Nation Investigations committee met twice at the London Business School and once on the midlands. The team expanded slightly to 26 accredited and provisional investigators, covering new ground (e.g. in Ireland). We also strengthened our links with groups such as the IUN and NUFORC in Northampton.

Our chief loss during the period was the services of our photographic analyst, Nigel Smith, who has done a marvellous job during his spell. We have not lost him to BUFORA entirely and readers will have seen articles by in UFO Times already. Roger Chinery has taken over the post and we wish him well and thank Nigel for all his hard work. Investigating UFO photographs can be a thankless task.

The key source of case reports during the year continued to be the press cuttings. Interest in UFOs at a media level continued at an extraordinary rate, exactly equalling the previous twelve months with a staggering 885 press stories on the subject in British newspapers (more than double the average for years pre 1988).

Other reports have continued to arrive via friendly authors and their books, plus BUFORA's own literary efforts - UFOs 47-87 and Phenomenon - whose success have provoked some cases. We also have good liaison with some police, media and science channels - with the odd case arriving from sources as diverse as the MOD and the Glossop Chronicle.

One Staffordshire Newspaper did accuse us of a 'cover-up' seeming because we wouldn't tell them what UFOs were! instead we explained some sightings on their patch and this did not appear to go down too well.

A key activity has been "circle mania", thanks to publication of Colin Andrews and Pat Delgado's lovely picture book on the mystery crop circles. Extraordinary publicity ensued and the much expanded version of BUFORA's work, via Paul Fuller and others at the NIC was also published. This has become extremely successful and has sold out its first three print runs in under six months! The NIC believes that this crop circle research into novel atmospheric phenomena is pointing the way towards a new insight into UFO investigation and may solve many classic cases.

Two other NIC members, Dave Clarke and Andy Roberts published the results of their research into "Pennine lights" seen throughout Yorkshire, Lancashire, Derbyshire and Cheshire. This appeared in Paul Devereux's seminal work on "Earthlights" and is further evidence of what is good about British Ufology and the 'sharp end' ie UFO investigation.

1989 also saw publication of BUFORA's second "Case History" (after a gap of some years). This is the first in a regular series and is a definitive account of all we know about the famous Peter Day movie Film case in Buckinghamshire. Plans for 1990 already include more of these publications of the NIC work - to let you see what we do.

There have been few really impressive cases in Britain in recent times. Most sightings are of 'lights in the sky' and it is some while since we had a good car stop, physical trace, or landing with entities. There is no sign of the much predicted wave of abductions either; although the arrival of "Communion: The Movie" in Spring 1990 may alter that.

Nevertheless, we continue to record UFO activity for posterity and over 100 files

were put on the database during the year. All the interesting cases will continue to feature in UFO Times (as did for example, the final report on the Peter Beard photographs from Barnsley - and an update on the highly controversial but fascinating Ilkley Moor 'entity' picture).

The NIC also continued to fuel BUFORA's "UFOCALL" service on British Telecom lines - bringing, for example, rapid and sober commentary on key cases (mostly foreign one in 1989). Highlights were the so called "UFO attack" on the Space Shuttle and the UFO landing in Voronezh, USSR, endorsed (at first) by TASS. UFOCALL kept everyone informed and helped fulfil our 'education' role - which was only briefly possible elsewhere during 1989. 26 messages were broadcast.

The most notable media success concerned Voronezh, when BUFORA (for the first time in its history) was represented on both ITN and BBC news programmes on all four channels. Excellent circle publicity was achieved in sources such as the Sunday Times, Country Life, (thanks to Ralph Noyes) and Geography (magazine of the Royal Geographical Society). We also made several guest appearances on several TV programmes (including three networked children's shows), ITV's "This Morning" and BBC's "Country File".

All in all it was a satisfying year.

Jenny Randles
Director of Investigations

Director of Publications Report

The 1988/89 financial period has proved to be a highly productive, active and fiscally successful.

We saw the launch of BUFORA's new magazine 'UFO Times' in May 1989: a 28 page glossy bi-monthly journal which brings up-to-date and relevant information to its readership. During the year every effort has been made to deliver the magazine on time (a situation which has improved compared to previous years). To date every issue of 'UFO Times' has sold out, despite continual increases in print runs. I hope that I will be able to report to the membership in next years report that UT has exceeded a print run of 1000. This is a target I have set and hope to fulfil.

Several other publications have been completed during the past year. 'Controversy of the Circles', written by Jenny Randles and Paul Fuller updated a previous publication 'Mystery of the Circles' and like its predecessor was a great success and was well received amongst its many reviewers. 'UFO World 1989' was compiled by Jenny Randles which chronicles global UFO developments over the past two years. Also, 'Fire in the Sky' was published which is the first of a new series of in-depth case histories. Jenny Randles also compiled this tome, bringing together many year of study of the Peter Day movie film case.

A new publication of the electronic type was launched in February 1989 in conjunction with British Telecom namely UFOCALL which has proved to be popular and income producing. My thanks to Jenny Randles who religiously updates the service on a weekly basis. However, for its continual success, we will need to rely on the membership to help publicise the service in any way they can.

Thanks go to Ken Phillips, Andy Roberts, Dave Clarke, Philip Mantle, John Spencer,

Jenny Randles, Paul Fuller, Hilary Evans and the many other contributors at Home and Abroad who have helped with the efforts of the Publications Department.

Mike Wootten,
Director of Publications.

DONATIONS RECEIVED from 1 Sept 1988 to 31 Aug 1989

Council would like to extend its thanks to the following members who have supported the work of BUFORA during the year with donations :

Miss Aldridge	Mr Hendon	Mr Shaw	Miss Day
Mr Knight	Mr Sherratt	Miss Farguason	Mr Leary
Mr Shirodkir	Mr Chovat	Mr Lewis	Mr Solanki
Mr Croft	Mr Morris	Mr Sullivan	Mr Dixon
Mr Noyes	Mr Wain	Mr Down	Mr Pinder
Mr Ward	Mr Elson	Mr Potter	Mr Woods
Mr Falla	Mr Powell	Mr Wootten	Mr Fisher
Mr Rowe	Mr Zvi	Mr Foster	Mr Rutter
Mrs Benson	Mr Foxcroft	Mr Salway	Mrs Heath
Mr Gregory	Mr Sands	Mrs Oakensen	Mr Gruncell
Mr Scott	Ms Duran	Mr Hawman	Mr Schineder



HEY, UFOLOGISTS!

Allan Staithes, ex-U.S. 'Blue Beret' crash retrieval team psy-ops specialist and now a tireless campaigner for truth talks about UFO magazines:

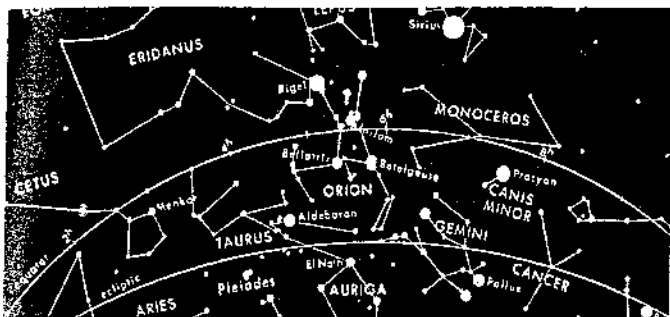
"Are you lost in your QUEST for knowledge in these UFO TIMES? Are N. U. N. of your friends impressed by your UFO magazine collection? Do you need a better AWARENESS of what is really going on in today's world of UFO research? If so I'MAGONIA tell you what to do about it. Simply subscribe to UFO BRIGANTIA. I did and had the Ultimate Secret revealed to me".

UFO BRIGANTIA is the journal of the Independent UFO Network (IUN). Each 28 page issue features UFO cases, UFO research & investigation together with UFO news from around the world - often throwing new light on many UFO theories and cases. UFO BRIGANTIA is not afraid to be critical of the subject of ufology and in the past has exposed many hoaxes and malpractice within the field. Spearheaded by ranting editorials, recent issues have included: Abductions, Government Conspiracies, Crash retrievals, Earthlights, Covert military technology, Underground alien bases, Genetic implants and Altered States of Consciousness. A lively letters page exists for readers to discuss the phenomenon and all the latest UFO books are reviewed as they appear.

UFO BRIGANTIA is available for £7.00 per year (six bi-monthly issues) from the I.U.N., 84 Elland Road, Brighouse, West Yorkshire, HD6 2QR. (Joint subscription with Jenny Randles' Northern UFO News available also at £11:00 p.a. - that's twelve UFO magazines per year kids, for £11:00!) Please make cheques payable to 'Martin Dagless'. Overseas subscribers please enquire for rates.

Remember, Allan Staithes says:

For the best FLYING SAUCER REVIEW,
read UFO BRIGANTIA



SKYWATCHER

Edited by Gary Anthony

Introduction

This edition we have dispensed with the regular features of Skydata and the Planets just for one issue, to bring you news of an exciting space mission to be launched this year. The joint ESA/NASA project Ulysses is regarded by the scientific community as being in the same ilk as Giotto which probed the secrets of Halley's Comet in 1986. This time however, the solar poles are the target for investigation.

Ulysses, into the Unknown

In the 26th Canto of the "inferno", Dante describes the last voyage of the greek hero Ulysses, beyond Gibraltar, a region which at that time was completely unknown and unexplored. Described by Dante as a 'mondo senza gente' - an uninhibited world beyond the sun where there are no planets, no possibility of life and no familiar features. According to the legend, Ulysses' crew mutinied out of fear and he gave them courage. This medieval epic is representative of the curious drive to explore the unknown regions and which ultimately expands knowledge, a strong motivation of the Europeans in the Middle Ages which led to the Renaissance.

Ulysses will be the first spacecraft to fly over the poles of the Sun and the second ESA spacecraft after Giotto to venture deep into the Solar System; the launch window is from 5th to 23rd October 1990.

Originally, two probes were planned, however in 1981, NASA, in the midst of financial difficulty was forced to cancel its half of the intended two spacecraft mission. The two probes were to be launched in February 1983 by the US Space Shuttle, with one proceeding over the north solar pole, while the second proceeded over the south solar pole. This would have allowed them to transmit information about the state of the solar poles and their possible effects on solar wind and the heliospheric magnetic fields simultaneously. Due to the revised mission and because there is only one spacecraft, a gap of one year must elapse between the information from the South solar pole and the North solar pole - in that span of time conditions may well have changed.

The mission to date remains a joint ESA/NASA venture. The spacecraft is European, which will be launched by the shuttle with the nine experiments



Ulysses launched from the Shuttle

onboard (being approximately 50%/50% European and American). NASA is also supplying the Radioisotopic Thermoelectric Generator (RTG) and the use of the Deep Space Network.

Predecessors

The two 'Helios' spacecraft (made by West Germany) got closer to the Sun than any others before them. Launched in 1974 and 1976 respectively, they got within two-thirds of the way to the Sun, approaching at a distance of 50 million km and returned data successfully.

The region over the poles of the Sun are so far unexplored territory and we can't see them clearly because of the hot turbulent solar atmosphere and because of our vantage point from Earth.

Ulysses' voyage to these distant mysterious regions will be long and perilous. An enormous amount of energy is required to propel a spacecraft out of the plane of the ecliptic and over the solar poles. Scientists came up with the ingenious idea: to launch the spacecraft away from the Sun towards Jupiter because of the massive planet's tremendous gravitational force. Ulysses will thus travel on a remarkable and paradoxical trajectory all the way to Jupiter - to use its enormous gravity for a 'sling shot' effect [remember the

scene in 2010? Ed] to swing back above the South pole of the Sun at an altitude of approximately 300 million km.

The path of light or form of any matter will bend as it passes through the gravitational field of a massive object. Planning a trajectory that passes close to a planet enables spacecraft to reach regions otherwise unattainable. In fact, Ulysses will gain energy at the expense of the gravitational and orbital energy of Jupiter which will imperceptibly slow down during the fly-by.

The voyage to Jupiter will take about 16 months and two and a half years after the Jupiter fly-by, Ulysses will pass over the southern pole of the Sun. A year later the space probe will reach the northern solar polar regions; the whole mission lasting around five years.

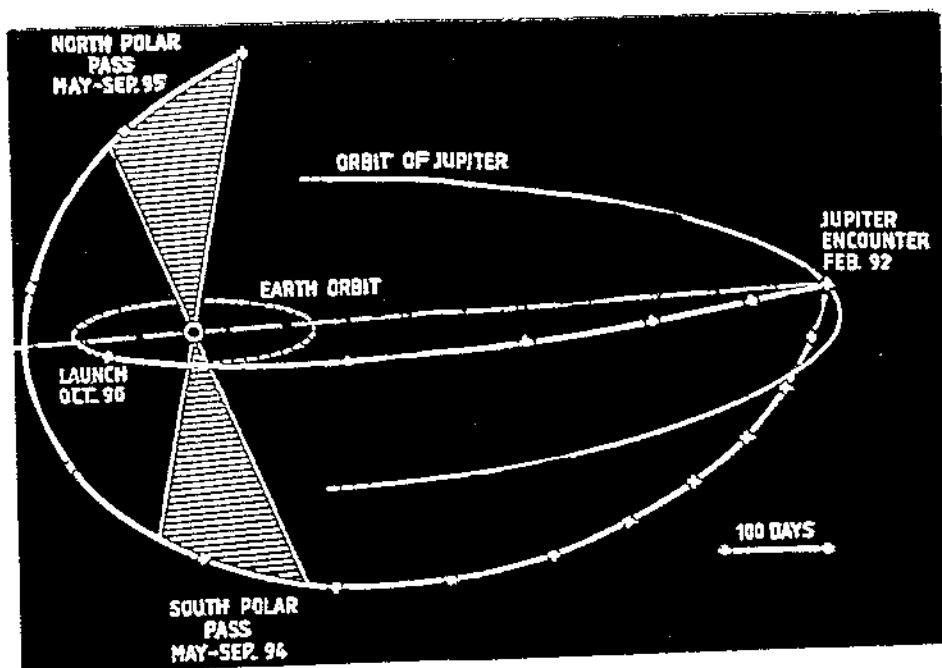
On Ulysses, the RTG will power all the scientific instruments and all the spacecraft sub-systems such as data handling.

Ulysses will be the fastest man-made object in the universe with an escape velocity of 11.4 km per second. When the spacecraft is furthest from the Earth at around 950 million km it will take almost an hour for signals to be sent back and forth between the probe and Earth.

These signals carrying the scientific information will be sent to Earth using a transmitter of 20 watts only - less than a low power light bulb - sent by a 1.6m parabolic antenna.

The large dish antennae of NASA's Deep Space Network (distributed across the globe) will receive these faint signals and transmit the data to the Ulysses Control Centre jointly operated by the ESA and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory located in Pasadena, California.

Ulysses is set to be a cosmic detective in our



the Ulysses trajectory

own violent galaxy. There are no doubts within the scientific community that this space probe will relay a great deal of information about our star, the Sun and hopefully shed some light on the nature of other stars - an uncertain realm of which we may yet venture to in the future.

All information courtesy of ESA and NASA.

If any investigator or reader requires planetary notes for January and February 1990, or astronomical information to help with the evaluation of case investigations please write to:

Gary Anthony, BUFORA ARP, 141 Newington St, Hull, North Humberside, HU3 5LF.



SKOOB TWO is the best secondhand bookshop in London for books on anomalous phenomena, magic, earth mysteries and related subjects - we buy books and stock BUFORA publications!

Come and browse at
19 Bury Place, London WC1
tel. 01-405 0030

Due to a lack of space in this special issue we are unable to bring you **Investigations Diary**. However, Dave Clarke will be bring you all latest case studies and UFO report updates in the next issue of UFO Times.

With the impending marriage of you editor on May 5th 1990 (yes I know these's a BUFORA lecture on that date but I couldn't help it!) it is regretted that the publishing timetable and the page count of UFO Times will be rather erratic over the next few months while arrangements are made and the Honeymoon is taken. Please be patient with us for the time being and "normal" service will be resumed as soon as possible (all cards of good wishes to the editorial address).

CASE - CASE - CASE

29th February 1978 Benefield, Northants. Clever detective work lead to this follow up of what was little more than a story.

Mr F woke up at 06.50 on a drizzly morning and saw through a window (facing South) a bright greenish-blue, almost fluorescent light or beam. Mrs F was woken up and saw it too but was sufficiently scared to return to bed. So he brought his adult daughter, who saw it and discussed it with him. They both felt it was coming closer. Mr F had binoculars and his daughter had a camera and so they went downstairs to get these, but in the few moments of doing so they both forgot entirely why they had come down! Eventually they returned upstairs, saw the light again and at 0705 it went out suddenly.

They reported it to the local paper and afterwards were called by a police officer who saw it but said he dare not make his sighting public. They had also called three airbases for help, without success. The only one who took any notice of them was RAF Alconbury.

In a second sighting on the same date at Pytchley near Kettering, a woman was catching a bus (07.15) saw a large white glow low on the horizon in the south seemingly fading away over rooftops. She stated that it was like a large electric lightbulb.

It is significant that Venus was low in the southern sky at this time and I am sure that this astronomical body was the stimulus behind the second sighting. It is arguable that the first sighting was also caused by the sighting of Venus via some form of atmospheric phenomena (i.e. through misty cloud). If anyone disputes this evaluation please let me know. **Investigation: Ernie Still (NUFORC) Evaluation: Jenny Randles.**

Send your case precis to: Dave Clarke
Investigations Diary, 6 Old Retford Rd,
Handsworth, Sheffield, S Yorks, SE13 9QZ

THE HERTFORDSHIRE 'MOWING DEVIL' WOODCUT

A 17th Century Circle Report?

by Jenny Randles

I was alerted to the existence of the 'Mowing Devil' woodcut by Betty Puttick of St Albans, Hertfordshire. She had read the book 'Controversy of the Circles', which Paul Fuller and I produced this summer, and she immediately sensed the possible relevance of this old folk item. She had come across it, she told me (letter dated 11 August 1989) "some years ago" when researching articles in her capacity as a local history writer.

A reproduction of the original four page pamphlet had appeared in a book she had read by the noted author W.B. Gerish, who wrote about regional folklore in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Dated 22nd August 1678, that ancient treatise employs contemporary language construction and reports an incident that **might** be an example of the crop circles phenomenon.

Of course, **might** is the operative word. At this early stage I had to consider whether the entire story could have been concocted, that the woodcut may be a recent fake contrived in the light of modern-day media stories on the circles, and even if genuine and three centuries old it could still be referring to an unreal incident (i.e. a fantasy). All relevance to the circles could just be coincidental.

Consider what we have. We know the incident is reputed to have occurred in an unknown part of Hertfordshire during August 1678 at the time when a one-and-a-half acre field of oats was to be harvested. That much is very useful as it fits with what we know about the time of the circles phenomenon remarkably well. Then mythology takes over and we are told about a row between the farmer and his mower and a vow that rather than pay the going rate 'the devil shall mow it' - and lo, and behold, that night the devil did just that!

However, when one examines the words used in the full text to describe this 'supernatural event' the crop it was said to appear, "**as if it had been all**

of a flame". Does that mean it was burnt or was seen to be glowing at some stage? If the former, the circles effect is hardly suggested because burning is not a known feature of the phenomenon. But if it was a fiery light (i.e. one of Dr Meaden's ionized vortices), then it becomes very important as possible supportative evidence for the meteorological hypothesis of circles formation.

The opening account then says that the oats were, "So neatly mow'd by the devil or some infernal spirit, that no mortal man was able to do the like" - the suggesting two things; that the attribution of devillish causes was made after the fact and not directly proposed by the phenomenon itself (i.e. nobody saw the devil appear and mow the crop) - and it implies that the resultant pattern of the crop was unusually configured and neat, which would fit beautifully with the crop circles phenomenon.

Spiral Pattern

The schematic illustration on the cover of the woodcut further emphasises the circles by indicating that a single circle was described as a spiral pattern. Of course, we have no idea whether this illustration was based on eyewitness testimony or even first-hand observation. It may simply be an imaginative reconstruction. But if accurate, and the devil is depicted as more or less human in size, then we are talking about a pretty typical crop circle some six or seven metres in diameter.

The text of the actual pamphlet itself is a flowery discourse concerning the nature of the devil and obviously uses the incident (or story) as a means to preach spiritual lessons, but it does add new information. It confirms that the event had occurred within three weeks of the woodcut being published; it states that the whole of the county was agog with the news; and it suggests that the phenomenon was very rare if not exactly unprecedented. These statements do imply an element of authenticity.

Taken at face value there is no doubt that this remarkable account does strongly suggest that crop circles appeared in the Hertfordshire field and were later interpreted as being caused by the devil. It may be that the entire tale of the argument over the payment of the farm labourer and the farmer's oath that the devil should mow the oats was a later adjunct to the tale tacked onto it by the author of the woodcut

(who is not identified but was clearly interested in marketing his wares to others and therefore had an incentive to make the story as dramatic as possible). To this end it would appear that our anonymous author may well have preceded by about three hundred years the similar antics in Hampshire of some latter-day opportunists who are known to all students of circles' lore for their enthusiastic if somewhat eccentric utterances.

Significant Evidence

This was the position as it stood in

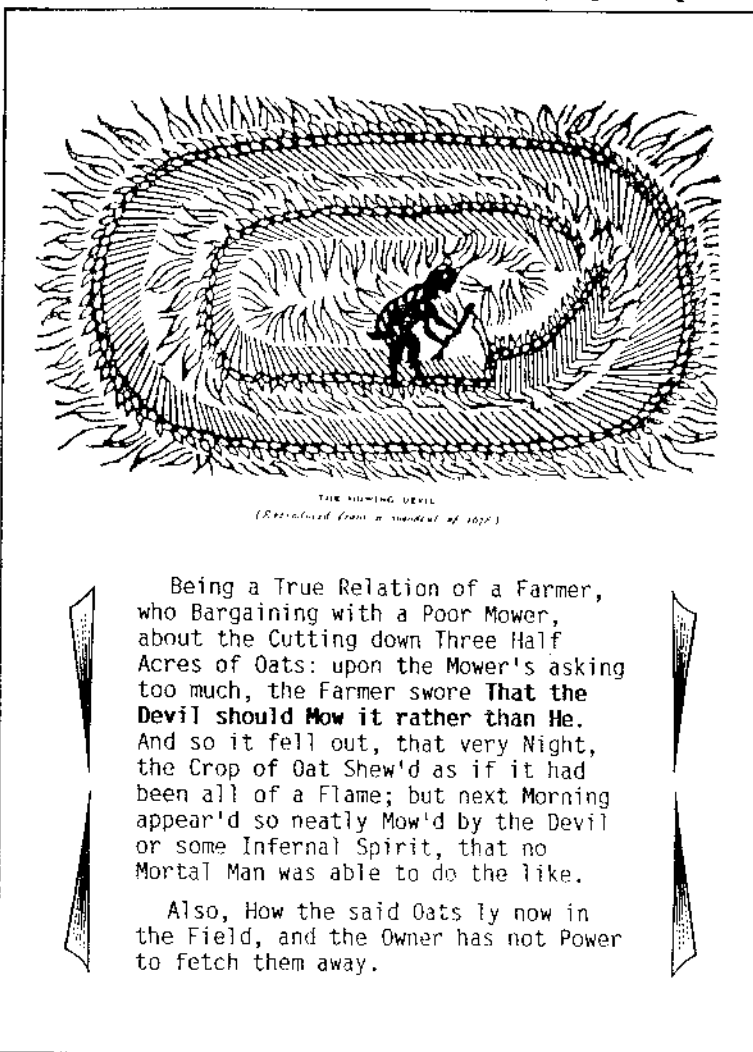
August 1989. Of course, I was well aware of the importance of Betty Puttick's revelation. If verified and if generally considered reliable, the pamphlet offered extremely significant evidence that twentieth-century crop circles do have historical precedents, and that they were interpreted in a different age and culture in a topically relevant manner. This is virtually necessary prerequisite of the meteo-

rological theory for their origin, because one would expect the phenomenon to have manifested through the ages. The total absence of the phenomenon from all historical record would have been harder to justify to those who seek to criticise a natural scientific explanation.

I initiated enquiries through the Folklore Society. One of their leading lights, Jennifer Westwood, told me that she knew of the 'Mowing Devil' tale and was positive it predated 1980. That was important, because

1980 represents the start of the modern-day mythology of the circles. Ms Westwood further advised that she knew of other possible stories about vortices that had created strange effects (especially to people) and which had been given the demonic or fairy-lore interpretations during the middle ages. The possibility that other folk tales might be found embodying circles data was now a distinct likelihood.

I wrote a short article on our quest for such material and our questions about the authenticity of the 'Mowing Devil' story. This was arranged for



publication in the Folklore Society magazine during Autumn 1989, where it could be read by researchers steeped in the field. Naturally, I was planning to await feedback before commenting on the 'Mowing Devil' find. However, in early October 1989, Bob Skinner, a correspondent from Surrey by chance came across a book at an antiques market in Farnham which discusses the existence of the 'rare tract' of 1678.

Verification

The incomplete account which Bob Skinner saw (in 'Witchcraft in Hertfordshire' by Lewis Evans, reproduced in 'Bygone Hertfordshire' edited by William Andrews) is dated 1898. That in itself verifies the antiquity of the woodcut at least to before any other known circle, both modern and semi-historical. The single-page account quotes relevant passages from the woodcut and generally gives an accurate description of the key features. It does not pass any judgement on the story's status.

In the meantime the Folklore Society were beginning to assist in my attempt to ascertain the reliability of the woodcut itself. I now have a copy of W.B. Gerish's 'Hertfordshire Folk Lore' - which is, in fact, in print as recently as 1970 (S.R. Publishers, Wakefield). However, it comprises of direct (confusingly paginated) reprints of assorted booklets and pamphlets, most of which first appeared between 1905 and 1915. The relevant discussion of the 'Mowing Devil' is in a ten page account labelled 'Introductory' which closes with a complete reproduction of the woodcut (only two original copies of which were believed to be still in existence even then - i.e. the early 1900's).

Gerish is considered a reliable expert on the period and refers folklore to the spread of Nonconformism during the late seventeenth century, adding, "One hesitates to characterise all such stories as fables, although to the great majority this term might be reasonably applied; but if any of these events actually happened, they were subsequently so distorted or highly

coloured as to be wholly unrecognisable by eye witnesses."

He further refers to 'sensationalism' and one can indeed perceive the 'Mowing Devil' woodcut as a sensationalised version with a moralistic message imposed on some genuine, puzzling phenomenon. Yet when talking specifically about the case Gerish says, "It is understood to be unique" and "The whole story is, of course, purely imaginary, and was simply written to point a moral, viz, never to say in anger what might be afterwards a matter for regret." He does, however, note that the reproduction of the woodcut, "Is one of two editions apparently contemporary, but only one possesses the woodcut (i.e. illustration) of the devil mowing oats." In other words, he is satisfied as to its genuine authenticity as a seventeenth-century item.

At this stage we are only in a position to make a value judgement. Gerish may be correct. But, of course, he wrote those words eighty years ago and if he knew what we now understand about the mysterious crop circles he may well have reached a very difficult conclusion.



THE BUFORA LECTURE RECORDING SERVICE

All BUFORA lectures & conferences are usually recorded, for your copy of the latest printout, listing almost 400 lectures, please send a 24p stamp (not an sae) to:

**Robin Lindsey, 'Montague Villas',
87 Station Road, Whittlesey,
Peterborough, PE7 1UE.**

LETTERS

If you want to air your views on the UFO subject, then send your correspondence to:

The Editor,
UFO Times,
103 Hove Avenue,
London,
E17 7NG

After publishing Steuart Campbell's recent letter in UFO Times 3, I received a flood (well a large puddle) of letters in reply to his comments. Here are a selection of them.

Dear Sir,

I read with interest the letter from Steuart Campbell. Although I have an interest in UFOs, my main field is Psychical Research and it is on this subject that I challenge Mr Campbell. The main bone of contention is the statement that, 'There is no evidence that so-called psychic phenomena exists.' The only people who make such extraordinary claims are those who are ignorant of the facts. Even knowledgeable sceptics accept that there is a case to be answered. There is no less evidence for the existence of mediumship, for example, than for the existence of UFOs.

I must also disagree with Mr Campbell's views regarding other universes. Firstly, the evidence through mediumship demonstrates that there must be **at least one other universe parallel to our own**. There is no other way to account for the phenomena, other than to stick your head in the sand and say you cannot see anything unusual. The former approach is adopted by genuine researchers, the latter by out and out

sceptics. Of course, the same is true in ufology.

Mr Campbell also misses the vital point about quantum physics: the presence of a wave nature in sub-atomic particles. The vital difference between a wave and a solid particle is the wave has properties of superposition and modulation. Put simply, these properties allow waves of different frequencies to occupy the same space without direct interaction. Therefore, it is quite possible for parallel universes to exist, separated by a difference in some fundamental wave characteristic. This theory springs directly from wave mechanics which unfortunately was not available to Victorian researchers when the greatest breakthroughs with mediumship were made.

Michael Scott, BSc,
Edinburgh

Dear Sir,

Steuart Campbell has made the same pompous remark in your journal as many other ignorant individuals who have not taken the time or trouble to study the subject of sub-atomic phenomena, therefore he has no right to state that it does not exist. Furthermore, to claim that, "Reputable scientists will have nothing to do with psychics" is an outrageous lie. Sir William Crookes, Sir Oliver Lodge, John Logie Baird and many more internationally known scientists around the world, past and present who have made it their business decoding and working out the mathematical formulae that match the seance room **proof** are not reputable?

To dispute the fact those people he derisively calls 'psychics' and 'mystics' are able to correlate with the scientists is absurd because the one reinforces the other. My own ongoing experiences within the seance room have brought this home to me even more so. We are dealing with very dangerous substances like electricity and chemical matter; so much so, that the medium could be killed if careful precautions are not observed. Therefore it is well within the scientist's domain to explore psychic phenomena, the outdated term for

sub-atomic phenomena. It is a science and a **most** reputable one and it would serve Steuart Campbell right if some of the "not reputable" scientists stripped him of his assets and sued him!

**Margaret Newson,
Wetherby**

Dear Sir,

I whole heartedly agree with the comments that Steuart Campbell made in the last issue of UFO Times [UT3 Ed]. It is my considered opinion that the 'mystical fraternity' (who are not and never will be happy with the way that the universe is structured in such a uniform and explainable manner) have latched onto quantum mechanics like a saviour and abused its laws to give a dying mystery a new breath of life.

However, I would disagree with him on the point that reputable scientists will have nothing to do with psychics. Several well know men of science have indeed tangled themselves up with the goings on in the seance room. But, it is unfortunate that they have been misled by charlatans and hoaxers, especially in the Victorian era, time and time again. Sir William Crookes may have been a great chemist, but that is not a pre requisite for him to be able to notice a trickster at work.

**Aaron Short,
Merseyside**

Dear Sir,

Steuart Campbell's letter contained an awful lot of complaining and criticising and not much of any constructive value. It also contains abysmal ignorance, particularly where the physics are concerned.

Campbell is correct to say that 'action at a distance' is unallowed in the Einsteinian universe but here **Einstein was wrong**. The EPR effect, as it is known shows instant 'communication' between two particles and the effect has been observed to take place inside multi-million dollar particle accelerators.

There most certainly **is** evidence of other dimensions of existence. What, for example, provoked the following statement from Adrian Berry (science Correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, May 1987)? "The theory of an infinite number of parallel universes....is gaining overwhelming acceptance among physicists." Physicists do not arrive at such mindblowing speculations unless there is some convincing evidence.

There certainly is a thing as 'New Physics'. It is generally another term for 'Quantum Mechanics' which is the most fully developed theory for explaining sub-atomic behaviour. Decades of research have gone into its development from our most elevated thinkers in mathematics and physics. Much of the appeal of 'New Physics' among the general public lies in the fact that there is a great deal of 'mysticism' in it. At the quantum level our commonsense notions of reality are shattered. A complete book called 'The Tao of Physics' by Fritjof Capra, which was a bestseller, shows the striking similarities between how the ancient mystics of the East have always perceived reality that is being discovered by our most advanced physicists. The similarities are staggering and so here, Campbell's assertion that 'mystics commonly misunderstand quantum physics' dissolves into a pathetic bubbling soup.

Bill Dillon's statement that psychic elements are compatible with current thinking is physics is quite correct. Here we must be clear that physics doesn't prove once and for all that there is 'psychic phenomena' but some of the spin-off conclusions of the new physicists (such as Bells theorem) provide a firm theoretical framework on which to **build** our theories. Physics certainly doesn't disallow it. It allows it, but it's fair to say it doesn't **explain** it.

And the comment about, "Reputable scientists will have nothing to do with psychics" is complete and utter bilge and without foundation. Sir William Crookes OM, FRS (discoverer of six elements including Thallium) was an outstanding chemist who proved to his satisfaction that people in other

universes can physically materialise into our own universe and hold a normal conversation for hours on end. If Crookes isn't reputable and materialisation isn't 'paranormal' then I don't know who or what is.

Scientific theories are now being formulated all the time for the so-called paranormal. This is because nothing is beyond the normal but just beyond our understanding.

Campbell should go away and rethink his attitudes towards scientists and psychic researchers. The 'normal' well regulated world about us, as perceived by our five senses, is a deception of what the world is really like. In the words of Niels Bohr, "Anyone who is not shocked by quantum physics has not understood it."

Lee Butchart,
Bristol

Comment Times Four

Dear Sir,

First let me explain that I am a licenced Air traffic Controller of some twenty years experience. The last sixteen years have been spent watching various types of radar displays.

Comment 1: I concur with Harry Harris re. the M1 video. I had already formed the opinion that with one of the main 'stacks' for Heathrow lying in the same direction as the observed lights, in all probability the objects that were seen were aircraft in the holding area. I refrained from commenting before, due to the fact that the original report was labelled as preliminary - thus there may have been other evidence to refute this theory.

Comment 2: In the same issue as the M1 video report (no 2) there was a brief report mentioning that an object was seen flying in line with the direction of the runway at RAF Brampton. This is ridiculous, RAF Brampton does not have an airfield or a runway!

Comment 3: Jenny Randles and yourself seek to discredit the work of keen amateurs like Colin Andrews. As I have met Colin, Pat Delgado and Dr Meaden, I am able to form my own opinion of their work and it is somewhat different from yours and Jenny's. This is not the first time I have had to criticise remarks made by Jenny; certain aspects of the 'Woodbridge' case, which to me with my experience were perfectly normal, were held to be totally out of the ordinary to Jenny!

Comment 4: Stop Press Issue No. 3. Tornado aircraft are built and test flown at Warton Airfield, just Southeast of Blackpool. To avoid noise nuisance, much of the test flying is carried out over the sea to the west of Blackpool. There is no such place as RAF Walton!

T.W. Clark,
Frimley, Surrey

Answer 1: I think you are probably right with the conclusion of this case.

Answer 2: This information has been passed back to the relevant investigators.

Answer 3: Although you disagree with the criticisms that Jenny and I have relayed, you do not actually state where we have gone wrong. Have you got anything concrete to state? Andrews and Delgado have spoilt the helpful measuring and photographic cataloguing that they have undertaken for many years by producing a flimsy 'mysterious force' theory (which certainly helps to sell books) that no way compares with the more down to earth and thought provoking evidence and hypothesis that Dr Meaden has formulated. On this occasion I can not bow to your judgement.

Answer 4: Again, this aiding information has been passed to the relevant investigators. It was my fault for getting the name of the airbase wrong; the information was relayed to me by telephone and I must have misheard the name.

DIARY

- 3rd February BUFORA London Lecture **Project Pennine**
Speaker David Clarke
- 3rd March BUFORA London Lecture **A.G.M.** followed by **The Corn Circles**
Speaker George Wingfield
- 7th April BUFORA London Lecture **R.A.F. St Mawgan Case**
Speaker Eric Morris
- 21st April **BUFORA Regional Lecture: Bradford.**
Central Library. Full programme to be announced.
Details from Philip Mantle, 1 Woodhall Drive, Batley,
West Yorkshire, WF17 7SW.

BUFORA lectures are held every first Saturday of the month at the London Business School, Sussex Place, Outer Circle, Regents Park, London, NW1. The LBS is only a five minute walk from Baker Street tube. Lectures start at 6.30pm. **All are welcome.** Full lecture programmes are available from BUFORA (LP), 16 Southway, Burgess Hill, Sussex, RH15 9ST.

If you have an event that you wish to publicise on this page **free of charge** then write to the editorial address (page 2) with your request, three months in advance.



LATEST BUFORA PUBLICATIONS

- Controversy of the Circles** The latest up to date study (4th reprint). £ 4.20
- UFO World 1989** An in-depth international review of the last two years of global ufology. £ 2.25
- Fire in the Sky** BUFORA Case History Number 2 of the impressive Peter Day Movie Film. £ 1.50
- UFO Lexicon** The only multi-language phrase book of terms employed in UFO research produced in the world (and maybe beyond!). Fully cross-referenced. A necessary communications tool for the serious ufologist. £ 5.30

All prices include p & p. Cheques should be made payable to BUFORA Ltd.
Send your order to: BUFORA (Pubs), 16 Southway, Burgess Hill, Sussex, RH15 9ST



MIDNIGHT BOOKS

UFOs - Space - Fortean
Earth Mysteries & more..

Good quality, secondhand
books for sale

Send sae for FREE catalogue



*63 Dixon Street, Swindon
Wiltshire, SN1 3PJ*



(0793) 487371