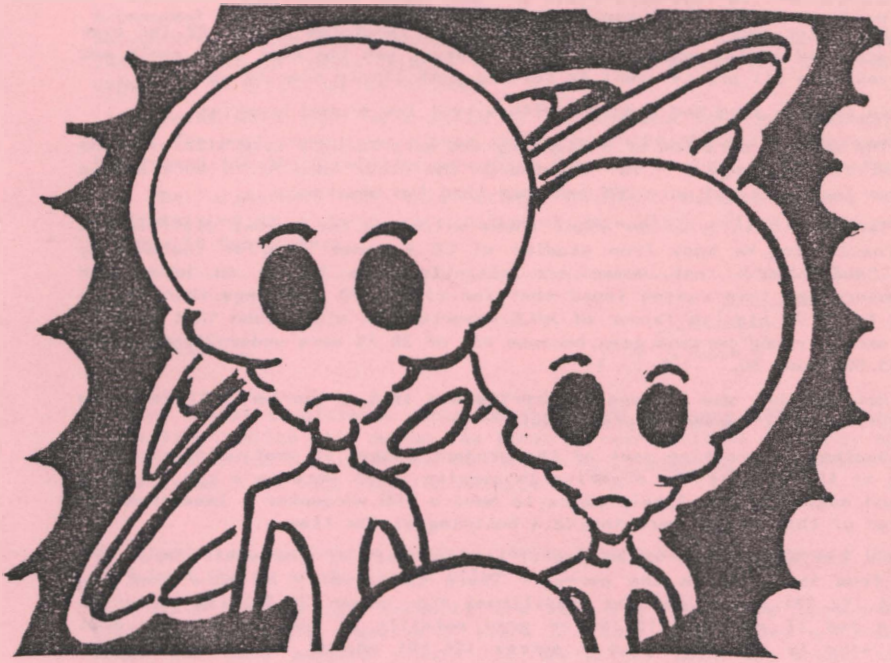
N-07

NORTHERN UFO NEWS 133

SEP - OCT 1988



NORTHERN UFO NEWS SUBS: £6 for SIX

EDITOR:- JENNY RANDLES COVER:- IAIN JOHNSTON (IUH)

CONTENTS: Usual features plus...pp 2-3 a close encounter survey...pp 3-4 US groups request your services...pp 4-5 Mystery Circles News...pp 8-9 UPDATE on the Midlands 'Stealth' sightings...pp 11-13 CASES FROM:- Cheshire, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Merseyside, Northants, Staffordshire, West Midlands and West Yorkshire...pp 13-16 CASE HISTORIES ... West Midlands repeater witness, the perfect abduction part 3 - the photo analysis...PLUS...p.16..MUFORA CELEBRATES 25 YEARS WITH AN OPEN DAY IN MANCHESTER.

NORTHERN UFO NEWS 37 HEATHBANK RD CHEADLE HEATH STOCKPORT CHESHR SK3 0UP

J. R. Comments... *It is not often that we see well tabulated statistical evidence about the UFO phenomenon. But thanks to reader Michael Hudson I can report on a survey carried out into almost 1000 cases in France. Michael is offering full copies to anyone who might be interested (send a large SAE to:- 71 Knight Avenue Canterbury Kent CT2 8PY)*

There are far too many sections of the report to comment on in detail. But here are a few 'highlights'. Of the explained cases in this high-strangeness study- just 1.8% were rated as a hoax. This is in contradiction to the popular view that many cases are made up by the witness.

One major suprise was that in 933 cases tabulated fully 192 (or over 20%) occurred in the month of October). (August was the next best month and the rest were all pretty even). By far the most likely hour to spot a

UFO was between 10pm and midnight, with a real low around breakfast.

The average duration of a sighting was surprisingly long, with over one quarter in the range 2 - 10 minutes. On the other hand 61.1% were single witness incidents and only 20% had more than two observors.

Turning to information about these witnesses, the sexual distribution was fascinating. We know from studies of CE 4 cases (see, for instance, my book "Abduction") that women are slightly more likely to have such encounters. Yet this review found that for close UFO sightings, there was a 70.3% to 29.7% bias in favour of MALE reporters. It also found that this is very much a young persons game, because all of 38.2% were under 20 years old and 63.9% under 30.

However, what was perhaps a surprise was that a quarter fell into the occupations slot deemed 'professional'.

Another interesting part of the project looked at what witnesses were doing at the time of the sighting. An amazing 30.2% were in a car. This was far and away the most likely place to have a UFO encounter - less than one quarter of this number were inside a building at the time.

We can also build up an identi-kit portrait of the most common UFO type from the data in the survey:- There is normally no more than one object (92.4%) and it has the traditional disc shape (30.3%). Its colour is mostly red if glowing (18.3%) or grey metallic if not (19.8%). The most usual size is between 5 and 8 metres (24.5%) and it is silent (30.6%); although if not a hiss/whistle (23.3%) or humming (20.1%) are vastly more commonplace than any other noise. It is also very frequently (66.5%) said to be brilliantly luminous.

Looking at the cases where entities were involved we find some further significant information. Most often (44.2%) there was just one entity; although 19.7% saw two and 10.0% saw three. These were normally seen no better than in silhouette, but when seen much clearer 17.2% said they were very human like. There were two very distinct peaks in the height of the figures, which supports the view I reached in "Abduction" of two different entity groups. 30.9% were between 65cm and 125cm (ie around 2 - 4 ft) and 45.8% were described as more normal in height (ie between 4 and 6½ ft) (

although there was evidence of the taller end of this group - up to around 7 ft- being the most common in this second data peak).

What did the entities do? Most tried to communicate (about one fifth) and used apparatus of some kind (14.5%). They were said to be friendly (18.6%), like a doctor (18.1%) and curious (17.0%). Any hint of anger and agression was shown in less than a tenth of the cases.

I found one of the most impressive sections dealt with effects of the encounter on witnesses. Easily the most common was fear (18.1%). But paralysis clocked up nearly one in ten cases (about the same as involved subsequent re-encounters). Memory loss was found in only 6.9% of these close encounters and the most commonly effected part of the body was the eyes (in just over 3% of cases). Almost half the close encounters involved some report of an effect on the witness.

Traces were left in a fifth of the cases. A very surprisingly high number. The most common was a hole in the soil (24.4%) and an impression in the ground (22.0%). Burning or scorching occurred in just 13.2% of cases.

The organisers of this study (Project Becassine) are to be congratulated on a first rate piece of work, which offers much food for thought to researchers.

NEWS ROUND-UP:

: The oldest constituent group in the NUFON alliance, MUFORA , celebrates its silver jubilee this autumn. The first 25 years will be marked by opening its doors to the public at the University on 12 November. All readers of NUN are welcome... see back page for details.

: A number of worthwhile American bodies have asked me to promote them, so here is a review of what is on offer.

MUFON (Mutual UFO Network) are the only UFO group anywhere that publishes a monthly magazine. 20 years old next spring they are run from Texas but have members around the world. They hold an annual two-day conference in the USA, which from having attended I can tell you is a great show. If you plan to visit the US in 1989 why not time it to tie in with the dates (usually the weekend around the 24 June anniversary). Their booklength proceedings (all the papers, charts etc from each conference) are always well worth buying - at around $10 US a time. Membership includes 12 issues of the MUFON UFO Journal and is $30 US; (in US funds on international money orders). Write for details:- 103 Oldtowne Rd Seguin Texas 78155-4099

Quite different is FUFOR (Fund for UFO Research), less a group and more a way to garner contributions to have a capital sum. That is then awarded to UFO researchers who apply for grants to carry out projects. Several UK researchers have benefited to do project work (eg into phantom airships) and any bona-fide research submission will be considered. The only criterion is that FUFOR have first chance to publish the research results, which

gives them a way to build up more funds. A very worthwhile scheme masterminded by Dr Bruce Maccabee, it is a very good home for any spare cash you might have after a win on the football pools. You can more realistically assist with small donations or by purchasing the fruits of the many research projects already completed. Examples include Dr Eddie Bullard's amazing study of abduction statistics and cases (all 673 pages!) at $100 US, or more modest ventures such as the 64pp review of the MJ 12 affair (with complete documentation) at $13 US or the 29pp summary ($6 US) and the 509 pp full catalogue ($80 US) compiled by Nigel Watson, David Clarke and Granville Oldroyd into the British airship wave of 1912-1913. Contact: - FUFOR PO Box 277 Mt Rainier MD 20712

Finally, the Archaeus Project is a research group into correlations between paranormal phenomena - a bit like a scientific version of ASSAP. It publishes Artifex (a regular magazine) and an annual bumper special on a set theme (the 1988 one is to be on UFOs). With an extensive library and research facility available to members, it is not cheap but it is highly responsible. Membership is $60 US and subscription only $30 US. From: -

Archaeus Project 2402 University Ave St Paul Minnesota 55114

: I still got plenty of weird letters, despite the one month postal strike which hit Britain hard (the Stockport strike lasting a week longer than anywhere else except for Manchester and Coventry!)(Obviously an MJ-12 plot).

One poor chap wanted assistance because his TV set (which used to pick up his dead dog in heaven after going off the air for the night) has now started to tune into Jesus (giving the epilogue?)

More seriously, I was approached by a child councillor from Liverpool who has read "Abduction" and has solved the mystery. She is convinced that all abductees were actually raped by their fathers whilst in the cot and this has manifested as a phobia about big-eyed entities in cigar shaped UFOs. I am not sure how this is supposed to apply to Alan Godfrey or Antonio Villas Boas . But I began to see how I should rate this latest psychologist fantasy when she related that most children in Britain have been secretly abused and as a child the psycho-etc herself would regularly see her room become mirror inverted and feel that she was an ant. Confirms what I have always thought about most psychiatrists and psychologists.

But my favourite comes from a man in Winson Green prison relating his bizarre paranormal adventures. His name - what else - is Mr Bent !

THE CIRCLE LINE

Last issue I asked Ralph Noyes to comment on his reasons for being actively interested in the mystery circles phenomenon. He was very kind enough to respond to this request.

He points out that the booklet "Mystery of the Circles", edited by Paul Fuller and Myself and published by BUFORA in 1986, is the definitive laymans account so far. However, Colin Andrews and Pat Delgado are threatening a book (called "Circular Evidence") which will be full of nice pix and their own brand of theories. And, in the not too distant future, Dr Terence Meaden will publish his ultra-scientific treatise on his new type of stationary whirlwind that he believes to be responsible. I doubt if any of us will comprehend more than the occasional word amidst the mathematics.

As Ralph indicates, we would all await that after his enormous work on the subject, but even so the circles still display puzzling features to the non- meteorologist , who inevitably finds it awkward that the weather can act in such apparently clinical fashion.

Ralph adds; "*It is a pity that we seem to be in the middle of a fratricidal row in the UFO community.*" He believes BUFORA has been prudent in distancing itself from them, because "*Nobody who tramps around from one field to another looking at these things-or photographs them from the air-could possibly ascribe them to ETs!*"

Having said that, Ralph is not prepared, as yet, to "*dismiss the suggestive correlation we seem to be getting between the occurrence of some 'circles' and certain kinds of UFO report... It may not be wholly ridiculous to suppose that whatever natural force causes complex patterns of disturbance in crop fields may also on occasion give rise to related patterns of disturbance in a suitably placed human witness of (perhaps) a rather special kind.*"

I find this an eminently fair and responsible position; although he asks us not to criticise Andrews/Delgado/FSR for saying something like this. In fact, it is they who are heaping abuse on the 'whirlwind merchants' and-I think it has to be said-they are correlating their ideas far more with ET (or certainly alien UFOs) than Ralph seems to think they are.

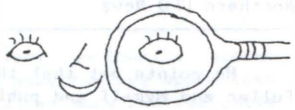
You may have seen the 25 minute documentary "Running Rings Round Arthur" (BBC-1 Country File 9 October) which reviewed the matter. It featured Colin Andrews, Terence Meaden and Paul Fuller, plus others, and reached rather laboured and biased conclusions. Based fairly heavily on "Mystery of the Circles" it would be churlish of me to complain very much! But I did think the ploy to try and imply that the circles are all hoaxed by the gang the BBC paid to hoax one for the film was rather naughty. The editors knew full well the truth about which circles these people had hoaxed before - AND WHY! - but kept silent. If you read the BUFORA booklet you will see precisely what I mean.

Anyway, the BBC ended by making clear what they thought was the opinion of Colin Andrews (who for the entire programme had studiously avoided mentioning UFOs). The one UFO case trotted out in support of the circles was also extremely dubious as quality evidence. But then what else should we expect?

To echo the final words of this programme about the circles; "This one will run and run"... Unfortunately, yes - round in circles.

Incidentally, Ralph Noyes is baffled by Ernie Stills remark that one of his bags was at the site of the Leicester circles. Explanation Ernie please!

FOR YOUR PERUSAL: -



Major articles elsewhere

EARTH has changed addresses to: 20 Stonegate Rd Thorpe Edge Bradford BD10 8BT, still £5, for six, and from the pen of "Professor Paulus Fruitcake Bennett" (his words) - the August issue is in new blue ink (very neat) but has the usual morass of things that creep, crawl, slobber and bite... And that is just the editor.

UFO BRIGANTIA (£7, for 6, 84 Elland Rd Brighouse West Yorkshire HD6 2QR)

Jul/Aug... Noted for its reprinting in entirity of aviator John Lear's extraordinary document about MJ-12 and dead aliens, plus a detailed letters debate on abductions involving several people of differing views.

Sep/Oct... The full story of the truth about the Roundhay Park affair.

FORTEAN TIMES (£7, for 4, 96 Mansgield Rd London NW3 2HX)

Issue 50... You can never review FT, of course. Quite simply the best, most indispensible and widest read paranormal journal there is. If you DONT get it then you deserve to be abducted. This issue has an 'Alfred' (sic) Budden article on investigations of the Rowley Regis ('mince pie martians') CE 4.

UFO UNIVERSE (Ask at your newsagents- they ARE supposed to be selling it)

Sep... Stanton Friedman on crashed UFOs, John Keel on UFOs early days, interview with Shirley Maclaine about her ET contacts, an exclusive on Ron the President and his UFO beliefs, JR on British abductions... plus lots more

Nov... Exclusive interviews with Maj Dewey Fournet (one of the first USAF UFO investigators) and Astronaut Gordon Cooper, Brad Steiger on UFO pregnancies, Peter Hough on a Lancashire CE 3... Its sensationalised and controversial but its a darn good read.

IUR (From CUFOS, $35, US, for 6, 2457 W. Peterson Ave, Chicago, ILL 60659 USA)

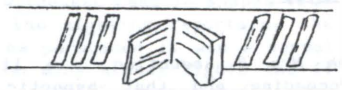
May/June... Paul Fuller on what you should believe about the mystery circles, Keith Basterfield & Robert Bartholomew on fantasy prone personalities and abductions, Stanton Friedman answers MJ-12 critics

Jul/Aug... Dr Eddie Bullard on abductions and folklore, JR gives a detailed report on the Cynthia Appleton CE 4, plus a major debate on the fantasy prone personality hypothesis involving Budd Hopkins, D Scott Rogo and JR.

JUST CAUSE ($15, US, for 4, PO Box 218 Coventry CONN 06238)

CAUS (Citizens Against UFO Secrecy) produce more data updating their 1984 trailblazing book- "Clear Intent".

BOOKS OF THE MOMENT:



GREAT MYSTERIES by John Grant 1988 128pp heavily illustrated

Quintet/Chartwell Books Secaucus, NJ, USA Price not quoted

You know the score. This hack gets together with an editor and says, boy oh boy, things like UFOs and stuff are going down really well just now. Isn't it perfect timing to produce another rehash of all those old cases cobbled together from the dummies who have done the hard work. Well, here I am - somebody who doesn't lift a finger and hasn't got a clue how to tell a crisp new PK case from a case of KP crisps. It will sell millions, especially in the USA, which is where we shall aim it at, and we shall be rich - he! he!

Know what I mean? You do? This book MIGHT have been like that. On the surface it is exactly like that. There won't be much in here that will be new to anyone pasingly familiar with the paranormal. But then, but then...

Pluses? Yes, it is beautifully packaged with page after page of photos (a few either out of focus, or my eyes are going) but still quite a sprinkling of not unreasonable text. Many of the photos are in colour too and the feel of the book is of something to keep on the shelf without too much embarrassment to impress friends with what an open mind you've got.

The UFO section is one of the longest , amidst everything from auras to yetis, and has all the usual pix such as Adamski and some weird alien monster on p. 105 I would best define as "ufospotter extraordinarius".

As for the style of the limited text, it is fairly critical, largely because John Grant is a bit of a sceptic (remember his fine book- "Dreamers" - on paranormal dreams - from Ashgrove Press in 1984?).

"Dreamers" this is not, but as pot-boilers go it is one of the more creditible efforts, which at least does not swallow every silly tale and makes a bit of a gesture towards being discriminating. Hardened readers of NUN will know that John Grant's earlier books include "Sex Secrets of Ancient Atlantis" and "The truth about the Flaming Ghoulies" (would I lie to you?). He has also co-written with Colin Wilson (which has probably answered several of your unanswerable questions about him already) and science-fiction with David Langford (he who is famed for the fabricated UFO Book 'Denizens of another world etc, etc, etc').

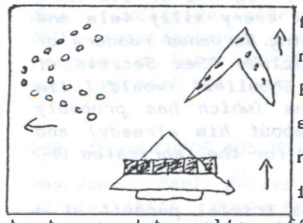
And lest any of you think that this otherwise trivial pursuit of a book has received a surprisingly mild mannered review because it was (to my astonishment - whisper, whisper, blush, blush) dedicated to your editor by its author - then I shall have you know that you are reasonably close to being not inaccurate in such an assessment of the token bribery involved.

Thanks to Ron Halliday, who saw my comment in NUN about not being able to review his "Mysteries of the Scottish Landscape" and sent me a copy. It's a typical EMJAY 14pp offering that gives an introduction to hill figures, zodiacs and Arthurs Seat, north of the Border. If you ever tour the country in a leisurely fashion (heartily recommended I assure you) take this along... From 35 Fountain Rd, Bridge of Allan, Stirling, Scotland

UPDATES:

The Mrs B abduction... a little bird advises that investigation is proceeding and that hypnotic regression has been employed recently. Predictably a family history of kidnap appears to be emerging.

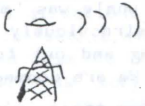
The midlands 'Stealth' sightings... Readers will know from recent issues that there have been dozens of sightings in the Stafford/Cannock Chase area of diamond/triangular shaped craft with many lights and 'silent' flight characteristics. The local press have carried numerous accounts since February, normally quoting your editor as suggesting them to be test flights of F-19s (the top secret USAF 'Stealth' jet believed to be at RAF Alconbury - as circumstancial evidence implies). YUFOS must be credited with the early research into the question of F-19 location in Britain. But Stafford MP, Bill Cash, has been mounting a major investigation, with the help of investigators Clive Potter from Leicester and Dave Clarke from Sheffield. There are too many consistant reports for there not to be some form of conventional (or in this case rather unconventional) aircraft solution. Even Janes Defence Weekly are half persuaded we are right, it seems! The latest sighting, in mid September, is under investigation by Clive and may make a considerable difference. It involves a two witness close up encounter on Cannock Chase where a crushed piece of bush was left in the wake of the object. Enquiries are proceeding to see whether there is a direct link. Obviously, a full report will follow. Meanwhile, over in Shropshire, Eric Morris has been inundated with cases too. Many of these appear to involve possible F-19 tests and his investigations have produced attention from the MoD - who have been phoning him to ask for details! And David Clarke has just produced a detailed report for the files (Case 8816) on the events in the Rotherham area, which involved no less than 30-40 separate witnesses on the night of 2 February 1988. Plotting sightings (all timed between 19.15 and 20.00 hrs) he has found a clear path east to west



from between Wentworth and Kimberworth , across north Sheffield and then moving north to cross Ecclesfield, finally returning south and being last seen in the vicinity of Oughtibridge. Of these reports only one made much media attention - this including national press coverage. It was a report by two on-duty police officers as Ecclesfield around 19.45. These were PCs Susan Jackson and John Boam. PC Jackson had climbed into her panda after sightings flooded into the station, and she quickly saw a V shaped red 'craft'. It had many 'flashing' lights and made a soft 'whirring'. PC Boam was by the police station a few hundred yards away and saw the thing move directly overhead towards Grenoside. David interviewed both witnesses and soon discovered that the press accounts (eg Daily Mirror - 8 Feb) were very inaccurate. The 'hovering' widely reported never happened and the aircraft was considered unusual precisely because the red lights were NOT flashing. Its noise was also a loud humming (not unlike aircraft of a different pitch- as most other witnesses attested). There was also no craft

visible, just rows of lights and it seems that witnesses read in shapes from these. PC Jackson was also NOT responding to the sighting reports, as the press implied! Both PCs desperately wanted to be persuaded it was a normal aircraft, but the sound was wrong, there were too many steady lights and it was extremely low. Most of the other sightings generally concur and a very aircraft like feel is generated by them (see identi-kit picture on previous page). The excellent IUN investigation checked RAF Finningley (whom the Ecclesfield police had called right away), then every nearby civil and military airport and then back to Finningley with these negative responses. None identified the military aircraft, but all felt this was what had been seen. Most just stated it was a low priority matter and forwarded to the MoD. There was some evidence to suggest that RAF Finningley DID track the object on radar. Largely because of the shape Dave Clarke concluded a low flying F-19 was probably involved again. However, I have to say that there seem remarkable similarities here with the Notts/Derby sightings in December 1987 and every reason to wonder if the lights were on SEVERAL aircraft that were flying much higher than believed (and only seemed low because the entire retinue was enormous and misinterpreted as belonging to just one aircraft). In that case this would be several jets and at least one rumbling tanker in a mid-airrefuelling exercise, probably from the USAF at a base in southern England.... I suspect this might well have been the case.

MEDIA MATTERS: -



A look at UFOs in the public eye

Where would we be without the Sunday Sport? Now that its weekday equivalent 'The Sport' has been released an endless flow of stupid UFO tales pours at an accelerating rate through the cuttings agency (costing BUFORA a pretty penny). On a national news interview at the launch of the Sport in August the editor tried to justify his ludicrous 'true' stories on the grounds that somebody believes them, so they dont have to themselves.

I could not possibly cover all their recent excursions around fantasy island, but here are a few. Lets start with "Aliens in TV licence fiddle" (31 Jul) - they are tuning into Mork & Mindy without paying according to a named Government spokesman dumb enough to be interviewed and have his words twisted. Dennis Harriman of 'sober, responsible' NUFOIS (getting ever more silly by the week) ended up suggesting that aliens watching Blakes Seven on Satellite TV were causing TV interference throughout the UK.

On 14 Aug an entire pub was abducted by spaceship in Exeter. What you missed that on News at Ten? Shame on you. Mind you a few dozen pints helps make it more credible. The week after we had the hilarious adventures of "The Pansy from Planet X"... this gay alien tried to woo a Colombian cattle rancher. Described as "limp wristed and green" (*what else?*) he gazed at the farmer, dressed in high heels and a glamorous frock and recited poetry. Unbelievably the Gay switchboard in London were daft enough to give a quote on this, er, fairy tale, for the papers abuse.

We shall skip through the case of the woman who ATE two UFOs when she mistook them for aspirin and move to the story that finally got several

proper newspapers to complain about the Sport. 21 Aug and we learn "Fergie Baby Spies UFO from Crib". Just 13 days old and the Royals are reputedly mystified because Princess Beatrice used ABC building blocks to spell out the words "Bright Light" after a close encounter of the goo goo ga ga kind. Ever helpful Dennis (the menace) Harriman agreed that Balmoral Castle was a very probable location for such an event.

After a blatant promotional story (31 Aug) - where aliens are said to be stealing all the copies of the Sport because they are featured so often, and therefore readers should order theirs or they may not get one - we have this classic from Tamworth in Staffordshire. A monster attacked Steve Jones (best mate of Dave Smith the milkman) (Coincidental names, eh, Smith, Jones, fraud?)... Titled "Giant sprout from outer space ate my pal" we have, of course, sent investigators to the spot investigating this heavily manured story (kitted out with protective cans of weedkiller).

September has produced the news that Bruce Willis of "Moonlighting" tried to star in the "Communion" movie, but missed out, so now he is obsessed with arranging his own abduction. Now why does that sound a bit more likely? However, the same issue (25 Sep) has on the cover what it calls a 'History-making intergalactic exclusive' (beats the Sun any day- eh)... "Space Monster Caught by Mars Probe"... Apparently our days are numbered because this 50 foot whale was 'miraculously' photographed by space telescopes (and even more miraculously looks exactly like an oil painting). It is "mean, starving and out to get even" says one scientist who reports it is heading here. We are doomed and the Sport were the first to get the story.

This means there won't be any NUN next issue, since we tend to need an earth to circulate it too. But just in case, keep your eyes open for more on these dangerous loonies from the London docklands. It just might be that their sports team are proven right.

The 'Sports' sports team? Yes, according to the responsible London Evening Standard (4 Oct) "after two years of producing front page exclusives which made TVs 'Hot Metal' appear as sober as the FT" (the OTHER FT!) "the papers three strong sports staff have walked out in protest". They did not mind these ridiculous yarns elsewhere in the paper but when the editor insisted on them taking over the sports pages (UFO set to land on Wimbledon final to kidnap top seeds, etc, etc) - then that was it.

The sports editor complained he had to deal with real people like Bobby Robson - who was not very happy with giving interviews to learn that what he had said meant that the England team had been replaced by three legged venusian substitutes in an effort to try and win the next world cup.

Guess who has happily agreed to be new sports editor? Bobby Moore, captain the last time England won the World Cup in 1966. You know, the time they used martians, since foreign players were not yet allowed by FIFA.

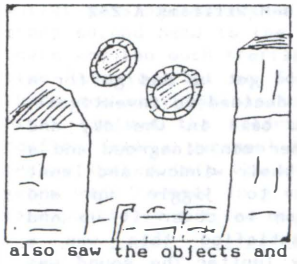
FOLKLORE SPOT... *Thanks to Roy Sandbach for sending a copy from Jeremiah Sullivan's 'Cumberland and Westmoreland Ancient and Modern' (1857) which reports on a man returning home over Sandwick Rigg. He saw a group of small fairy folk around a ladder stretching into a cloud. The witness (Jack Wilson) approached but they left by "quickly drawing up the stee (ladder), they shut the cloud, and disappeared." Sound like something we know?*

BRIEF CASES: -

Some current investigations

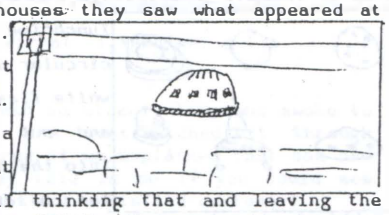
CASE 6620 MUFORA November 1966 Longton, Staffs Mark Simpson B 3-3

It was just after 17.00 on an overcast day, with the dark sky illuminated by streetlights. WW had just finished work and was heading home in this suburb of Stoke on Trent by the Foley Railway Crossing. Looking towards King Street through a gap in build-ings he saw two very strange objects hanging in the air. They were like plates on edge with a clear outer rim that seemed to be like the coiled wire on an electric bar fire. The inside glowed red like molten metal. A woman standing at a bus-stop nearby also saw the objects and looked terrfied. They were in view only 2-3 seconds and seemed to shoot away from each other in opposite directions. Could be a misinterpretation of a bright meteor or satellite debris; although the BUFORA files for 1966 have no such case reported. Came to MUFORA when witness attended the Jodrell Bank Telethon witness surgery. Witness believes Stoke to be in Derbyshire, even though he still lives there!



CASE 8656 BASE 18 October 1986 Hagley, W Midlands David Taylor D 1-1

Mrs W and Mr P, a friend, were passing Blakedown Nurseries at 10.30 hrs on a warm, dry day with clear skies. Between houses they saw what appeared at first to be a "dark silver childs balloon". After watching this for about 30 seconds it was now obvious as a dome with windows in. Still trying to convince herself it was a toy she tried to work out why it was caught in a telephone wire and walked off still thinking that and leaving the object there. But now Mrs W reckons it was a UFO. Mrs W does wear spectacles and the investigator is satisfied that her first impression was correct and this was indeed a metallic toy balloon possibly caught up in the cables.



CASE 8745 MUFORA 18 March 1987 Sale, Cheshire B 2-2

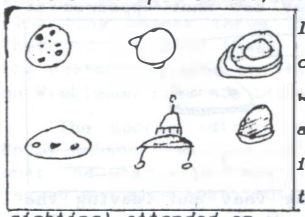
At about 18.00 Mr W, his ex-wife, her live-in-lover and her two children from a former marriage (all of whom live together) observed a stationary light in the sky. He was convinced that it was nothing astronomical because it was

too bright. Getting out a 25x telescope they all watched it for about 20 minutes until it faded away. It was in the east and through the scope displayed a grey band and other distortion features that are indicative of the planet jupiter, then visible and bright in the correct part of the sky. MUFORA was satisfied that this was a planet misidentified through a telescope lens and closed the case, but Mr W will not accept this solution. He thinks it may have been an 'observation craft' watching the rush hour traffic - none of which took the slightest notice of the intruder.

CASE 8746 NUFORC August 1987 Wellingborough, Nthnts H. Williams A 2-2

Two men, both flat mates, were restless and decided to get up and go for a walk at about 3am. They heard a high pitched hum and decided to investigate, but found nothing. Then one man spotted a reddish ball in the sky and suggested this was the source of the noise. The other man disagreed and a row broke out. This awoke two neighbours, who opened their windows and leant out-also seeing the fuzzy light. It appeared to jiggle up and down. Eventually, after about an hour, the cloud began to cover it up and everyone went to bed. The investigators are satisfied this was a misperception of an astronomical source - probably Jupiter. The sound was entirely unrelated, eg an electrical generator at a nearby shop.

Case 8725 ... *I have not previously reported this case, hoping that Peter Hough of MUFORA could obtain more details, since it happened almost on his doorstep. Unfortunately, DIGAP 'investigator' Steve Balon refused to have any cooperation from Peter or MUFORA and generated so much media attention that the witnesses would not allow any further interviews. First reported in depth by the Manchester Evening News (7 October 1987) we are shown pictures of this latest load of Baloney, with Steve and over 20 pupils aged 10 & 11 from St Josephs School, Leigh, Lancashire. We are told that on 29 September at*



lunchtime 30 children saw a helicopter CHASING a circular object - see oppposite - that had red and white flashing lights on it. Both objects darted in and out of clouds, pulsed brightly and vanished into the clear blue sky. On 1 October, some more of the children (who were well aware of the earlier sighting) attended an evening youth club and saw the same object again. The headmaster (the unfortunately named Mr Nutter) seems to have accepted the stories related to him. The News carried a photo of the children holding up copies of the paintings they all did, which vary quite a lot. A week later they were all back in the Daily Star ("No kidding, Sir, we did see a flying saucer"). The extra information was added that on the second occasion the UFO fired blue laser beams onto the school playground. Without any kind of investigation it is difficult to say whether this case is as impressive as it sounds or an exaggeration of conventional air traffic. The area is very busy (even in late September) with holiday flights circling to land at Manchester airport and blue strobe lights can look like blue laser beams.

CASE 8815 IUN February 1988 Todmorden, W. Yorks A Walmsley B 3-3

First reported in the Halifax Courier (23 February) we are told that three unnamed youths saw a moving light over Scaitcliffe Hillside in the town and a faint white trail was left in its wake. Sargeant Alec Hirst of Sowerby Bridge police became involved and he suggested it was a plane landing at Leeds/Bradford airport dropping sand! To check this seemingly bizarre idea Andy Walmsley investigated. Alec Hirst would not release the names of the youths (parents allegedly refused) but he remained adamant that aircraft regularly readjust their flight characteristics in preparation for landing whilst passing above the area and this WAS the answer. He had recounted the story second hand to the paper. Manchester Air Traffic control advised that there was too much traffic to pinpoint one exactly when we only had a vague time (evening), but as Todmorden is close to the Pole Hill radio beacon there are many options. Andy found that Tennerife airport (from where Alec Hirst claimed the culprit Boeing 737 arrived) is very sandy. This I can confirm from a personal visit. The PC is convinced that some of this sand became locked into the wheel gears during the 4 hour flight and when the gears were lowered in preparation for landing this let out a trail of fine sand particles. IUN see no reason not to accept this solution.

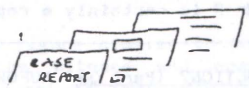
CASE 8817 MUFORA 20 July 1988 Chadderton, Oldham, G. Mcr G. Mills A 2-2

First reported via Jodrell Bank within hours a 28 yr old housewife was doing gardening at 22.00 hrs when she saw a pink red ball in sky. She called her boyfriend out and he saw the final few seconds as it fell to earth with a snake like trail behind. The Oldham Chronicle reported an identical sighting by another woman elsewhere in Chadderton. At first MUFORA thought this was a meteor, but the duration of 30 seconds seems too long. Although no source was found MUFORA now thinks this was probably a rocket or flare.

CASE 8818 MUFORA 28 September 1988 Upton, Wirral J. Randles B 1-1

Another case direct from Jodrell Bank. Witness an elderly lady who awoke to find an exceptionally bright light in the west. Watched it through binoculars for 40 minutes until cloud covered it up. Explained that she had been watching venus and she said, "Wow! They told us on TV you could see that, but I never thought I would" At last - one satisfied customer!

CASE HISTORIES

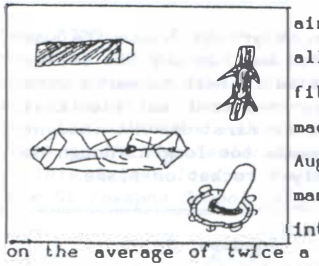


QUITE A REPEATER BASE/PARASEARCH Report by Mark Sampson & David Taylor

This case might hold the record for the most UFOs seen by one witness!

Mr R lives in Oldbury, West Midlands and began his escapades in August 1954 when as a child he saw a bell-shaped craft coming low over the rooftops at approximately 00.15 hrs. It was dirty grey metallic with a dome atop and four portholes. A flashing blue light was on top and a powdery blue exhaust trail came from its underside, leaving a faint smell of sulphur. The thing was in view about 4 minutes and nearly hit the chimney pot. His father prevented Mr R from reporting it publicly. The similarity with the Adamski UFO is obvious. Indeed, Mr R, who says he has read several UFO books since comments on this himself. If the sighting were 100% reliable that would be significant. Unfortunately, it has to be seen in the light of all the ones that have followed.

There are far too many to summarise. He saw the same UFO again three weeks later (again near Smethwick - where most of his sightings occur). In September 1957 he saw a wobbling yellow light. In July 1961 another one, which manouvered around the sky for some time. On 29 December 1962 it was a black cigar with a yellow cockpit. In August 1964 two weird stubby winged aircraft. In September 1965 the strangest of them all (see pictures opposite) a complex blue white fibre glass structure. And so it goes on, a box-kite made of transparent material crossed with lines in August 1969 etc etc. Since 1981 there have been so many of these observations he has divided them up into groups (pearls and darts) which he has seen on the average of twice a week for six years! Needless to say there are suspicions that some of these must be aircraft.



Oddly, Mr R has no track record of psychic experiences and no contactee elements to his tale. He just sees lots of UFOs. The investigators are divided on their opinion about his status as a witness; David Taylor seeming more prepared to regard the variety as a psychological aspect of repeatedly filling in lights with expected shapes. In truth, of course, we shall probably never know. But Mr R is certainly a repeater witness without equal.

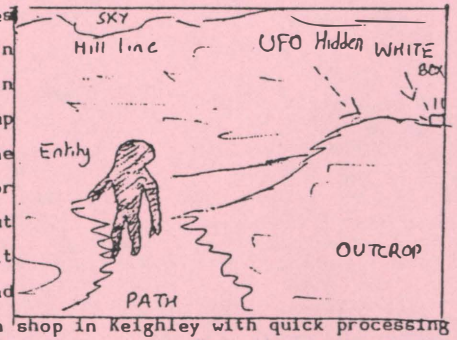
THE PERFECT ABDUCTION? (Part 3) MUFORA Report by Peter Hough

Case 8744 1 December 1987 Ilkley Moor, W. Yorkshire Level A (SP 9-5)

This time we shall concentrate on the photographic evidence for the case.

As reported last issue, Philip's encounter with a landed UFO and entity takes on great significance because he has provided a single photograph which he claims depicts the entity. It has been reproduced by the media and looks fuzzy and grainy (due to 400 ASA rating and possible low light). But the original, in colour, is better than any press reproduction and shows a distinct green cast - which MAY have something to do with the dim light and grain structure, as high ASA film can appear more greenish.

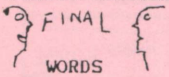
In his original letter to JR (postmarked Leeds 4 December) Philip reported the story pretty well as in later interviews. He went for an early morning walk to take photographs, heard a low humming, noticed a movement out of the corner of his eye and about 30 feet away saw a "small green creature moving quickly away". He shouted 'Hey!' and the entity turned and seemed to wave him off. It was at this point that he had the presence of mind to take one quick photo before the figure scuttled around a rock outcrop. Philip continued up the crevice between rocks forming a little track, rounded the corner and confronted the landed UFO..."like two silver saucers stuck together with a square box with holes sticking out of the top". This went in to the top of the disc and the humming noise increased. Then the UFO shot up into the clouds. He did not see the entity on this second occasion. Nor did he take a picture of the UFO. But he went back home and found that it was almost 2 hours later than he had anticipated. Travelling straight to a shop in Keighley with quick processing facilities he had the image developed that morning. Even though the entity came out he did not mention the success of his photography in the letter.



Upon first investigation one problem was the timing. If we accept Philip's story the photo was taken at 07.45 on 1 December. We were able to demonstrate immediately the impossibility of this. The entity is in shadow against the hillside, but the sky is visible at the top. It is far too light for the near-dark conditions on that date and time. Much later, under hypnosis Philip said that his memory was false and he took the photo AFTER the time lapse - ie at about 09.30, which matches the resolution capabilities of Kodakcolor VR and Prinz Mastermatic 35mm camera.

The image on the picture does show a figure similar to that described by Philip. Measurements on site with the witness and comparative photos indicate very clearly that it IS at least 4½ feet tall (possibly more if you allow for the fact that there is a slope and the entity is stooping). As all photo analysis confirms this IS a real image and not superimposition that seems to prove this is not a small model ET doll (which was at first suggested by some experts) and may even be more human in size.

On 11 January Peter Hough and JR took the picture to Tony Marshall, a professional wildlife photographer in Sheffield. His examination left him convinced it was probably a large bendy toy. We were freely given all the other shots on the roll (which were of bridges and buildings - including two of a bus stop and street scene taken AFTER the alien shot on the way to Keighley - before Philip decided it was pointless trying to rapidly use up the rest of the film). Tony was not impressed by the quality of the photo (all the other shots did NOT have the same fuzziness). We asked him to look at a small white spot on the image. This was EXACTLY where the box atop the UFO would be, assuming it could have been seen above the rock outcrop from further down the path. Philip had never commented on this remarkable coincidence (or possible support for his story) - but Tony Marshall found a scratch in that part of the negative which he thought must be the white box. However, we wanted further expert opinion on the photo and that certainly threw the case even more into the open.... *To be continued*



One of NUFONs founder groups, MUFORA is 25 years old this autumn and to celebrate it is throwing open its doors to the public. An exhibition, lectures and photographic presentations will provide a review of the major work of the group during that quarter century. Admission will be £1 (50p for children, OAPs and students with cards). All NUN readers are most welcome. Doors will open at 1pm for the exhibition and the presentation will run from 2 - 5pm on SATURDAY 12 November 1988 at Catholic Chaplaincy St Peters House next to the University Precinct Library on Oxford Rd (five minutes walk from Oxford Rd rail station in central Manchester)

CALENDAR

BUFORA lectures at the London Business School, nr Baker St tube, 6.30-9.30pm
5 Nov Cynthia Hind "Sightings in South Africa"
3 Dec Roger Sandell "Leylines and UFOs" 12 NOV-MANCHESTER-SEE ABOVE

NUFON Regional Groups

SPI	(Scotland)	4 Woodlea Park, Branshill, Sauchie, Alloa		FK10 3BG
NEUFOI	(Tyne & Wear)	10 Barrow St, Sunderland,	Tyne & Wear	SR 5 4NP
NLUFOIG	(Cumbria)	89 Bare Lane, Morecambe,	Lancashire	LA 4 6RN
MUFORA	(Lancashire)	6 Silsden Ave, Lowton,	Lancashire	WA 3 1EN
IUN	(Yorkshire)	1 Woodhall Dr, Healey Lane, Batley, W.Yks		WF17 7SW
CUFOSC	(Shropshire)	117 Earle Street, Crewe,	Cheshire	CW 1 2AG
SSPR	(Derbyshire)	17 Old Quarry Ave, Wales,	Sheffield	S 31 8RW
BASE	(W.Midlands)	2 Chapel St, Kingswinford, W. Midlands		DY 6 0JU
LUFOIC	(E.Midlands)	31 Grove Road, Highfields,	Leics	LE 5 3HJ
PARASEARCH	(Worcester)	79 Sandringham Rd, Stourbridge,	Worcs	DY 8 5HL
NUFORC	(Northants)	46 Occupation Rd, Corby,	Northants	NN17 2EF