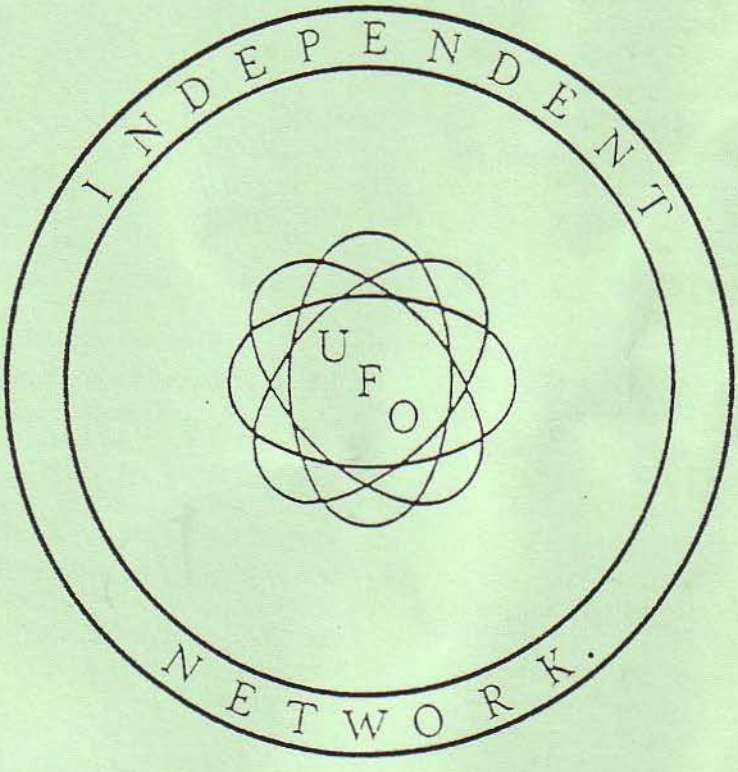
UFO BRIGANTIA.

A JOURNAL OF UFO INVESTIGATION.



THIS IS

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PUBLICATION.

no.33

UFO BRIGANTIA NO. 33 JUL/AUG 1988

The Journal Of The Independent UFO Network (I.U.N.)

The magazine that believes at least six impossible things before breakfast

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THE I.U.N.

The Independent UFO Network was formed in September 1987 from the West Yorkshire UFO Research Group (WYUFORG) and the Yorkshire UFO Network (YUFON), together with many hitherto independent investigators from the north of England. The Network exists as a non-dogmatic, free-floating pool of active researchers and investigators, who may be a member of any other organisations they choose. The IUN operates a policy of total freedom of information, witness annonymity, where applicable, excluded, and will assist any other serious researchers of the UFO phenomenon to the best of its abilities. All IUN case files are open for inspection and comment. The IUN holds no fixed viewpoint as to the ultimate nature of the UFO phenomenon (although Philip mantle knows and won't tell anyone), and respects individual belief and freedom in such matters. Membership of the IUN is free (not for long though), the only criteria being a willingness to further our aims and to help with the workload, although subscription to UFO BRIGANTIA, the group journal, is encouraged.

The IUN also operates the 24 Hour UFO Hotline, courtesy of Philip Mantle, and is also involved in Project Pennine, a long term study of anomalous light phenomena in the Pennine region of the U.K. All enquiries about the I.U.N., case files, UFO BRIGANTIA etc should be addressed to one of the contact addresses above. The Journal's name,' BRIGANTIA', is taken from the old Celtic word indicating a geographical area stretching from the Wash to Scotland. You didn't know that did you?

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Hi. Slight changes on their way from the next issue of UFO BRIGANTIA. We will be dropping our page content from 32 to 28. This is unfortunately an economical measure. Printing costs have risen at least once since our last price rise and rather than increase the subscription we thought it better to reduce the pagination. To offset this, and to continue giving good value to our readers we have changed the line spacing from 1½ to 1 (from this issue), so in fact you are actually getting more words per issue than before although less paper. But, ecology fans, think of the saving in trees.

For a great many readers this will be their first issue due to the massive upsurge in subscriptions, particularly from America. We hope you enjoy the magazine as much as our existing subscribers do. Please continue to send us your letters, articles and UFO related news clippings. We have enough articles backed up for the next four issues at least and a massive pile of cases to publish, however we are always pleased to receive articles on any subject.

Future issues will include an article on a 'haunting' which could well have been a UFO abduction, by Manfred Cassirer, two articles by Jenny Randles, one dealing with Yorkshire's very own crashed saucer account.

The most provocative article this issue is by Regina Cullen, writing for us again, this time on the subject of the little-known Ubatuba magnesium fragments which quite frankly knocks all the crashed saucerjackanory stories into a cocked hat. Forget MJ12, Roswell etc, if someone got their act together on Ubatuba positive conclusions could be made.

I'll say nothing at all about the amazing story on page 19 . Just read it -and I'll certainly be interested to hear what you have to say and to print your letters. Go on, read it first.

Probably the most important article this issue is David Clarke's continuing look at the vast amount of south Yorkshire sightings. Clearly something is going on, but what? If, as Dave suggests the explanation might be terrestrial, are we just wasting our time playing at what is basically aircraft spotting? Lets face it, anything which flies round displaying red, green and white illumination lights hardly sounds like the 7:45 shuttle from Venus or the ∅ dimension, does it? So should ufologists take an interest in what is almost certain to be terrestrial aircraft- even though it is likely we will never be able to prove it- thus making it a 'UFO' whether we like it or not. It's a hard one to answer, but yes. The witnesses think they are seeing a 'UFO' (whatever one of those is) and so do the media and this is what creates the UFO sighting mileau in which we operate. You can't have high strangeness events all the time, even in Barnsley.

As ufological fashions change, this seasons new clothes include, besides the ever-popular ETH, renewed interest in the Nazi hypothesis and a growing fascination with the Secret Weapons Hypothesis- we should be very cautious with both these. The Nazi hypothesis is frankly laughable and the SWH deserves to be viewed with a gimlet eye. Remember how during the early Airship flaps they were attributed to being the results of 'secret inventors', well both the Nazi Hypothesis and the SWH could well be the 1980's equivalent. People want explanations and if you're a failed secret agent or an aircraft spotter then both the NH and the SWH provide an explanation for you. Discounting

the Nazi Hypothesis completely (no strong evidence other than rumour, speculation and wishful thinking) at least the SWH has a grounding in fact in that Stealth, RPV's etc are known to exist, but are they really flying in such quantuties as the flaps of the past year suggest? And are the people who operate them really so stupid to fly them low, over populated areas and to have them shine lights on the poor defenceless citizenry of Barnsley. It hardly makes them secret. So we're back to a UFO mystery again. Writer and author Paul Screeton once postulated (with tongue firmly in cheek) the existence of a 'Rotherham Triangle', based on the sheer amount of bizarre fortean tales which emanted from Rotherham, Barnsley and Sheffield. Going on the events of the past year he could well have been right!

On a sadder note we are running an article about the so-called Roundhay Park Abduction. Unfortunately this again raises the schisms and rifts that exists betwen UFO groups - highlighted by Paul Fuller in his excellent article on page 12 . Passive consumers of ufological books and magazines would be amazed to discover just how much back-biting, abuse and hate exists between the various UFO factions which make up the UK UFO community (one day the IUN may publish its extensive stock of devious and abusive 'annonymous' letters) - largely due to the vast gulf in ufological beliefs and practices and also to the even vaster ego's which tend to abound in ufology (the big fish in a small pool syndrome). This has lead to the current situation whereby inter-group co-operation is at a premium, to say the least. Over the past year the IUN have changed that to some extent and even though many people will not touch YUFOS, or BUFORA for that matter, with the proverbial barge pole, we have a good working relationship with many of the smaller groups and individual researchers in this country. Actually though a bit of inter-group strife may not be too much of a bad thing. People are constantly going on about 'making ufology a scientific subject' etc etc ad nauseum, but do they realise that all is not and never has been sweetness and light within the scientific community. People and theories constantly jostle for position, and lets face it a pillock is a pillock whether in ufology or in biology. If some of the people within ufology could seperate their ego's from their belief systems we could have healthy debate without argument and controversy without confrontation and we might actually get somewhere.

Finally, journalism. The dread 'Sunday Sport' to be precise. Malcolm Robinson's letter deals with it, Jenny Randles has castigated it in the current Northern UFO News, but it's not going to go away. Malcolm is probably right suggesting no-one talks to them, but they'll just make up what they want anyway. Bizarre UFO stories make good press and no matter what we do or say the Sunday Sport is still going to publish the crap it does so we might as well learn to live with it.

Totally opposite to Sunday Sport's point of view I was interviewed by a South Wales radio station whilst at the Ley Hunter Moot the other week and to my surprise found the journalist to be almost human. No automatic assumptions that 'there are so many planets therfore there must be life on them therefore they must be visting here and raping our womenfolk' mentality- just a clear straightforward interview with someone genuinely interested in the subject. Why aren't they all like that?



That's the worse case of Rapid Eye Movement I've ever seen!

EEE BY GUM LAD - UFOs OVER BARNSLEY

david clarke

Recently, for some peculiar reason, the previously down-to-earth mining town of Barnsley in South Yorkshire seems to have received an undue amount of attention from our fabulous flying friends the UFO's. As mentioned in previous issues of UFO BRIGANTIA, the Barnsley sightings appear to have begun in August 1987 with the famous series of photgographs of a disc-like UFO taken by Peter Beard of Sheffield Road, Barnsley.

Since this time, a number of other fascinating sightings have taken place, including those reported by a number of observers in the south Barnsley area on the night of Wednesday, February 10th, 1988, which involved a large diamond-shaped object moving at low altitude. Scores of other Barnsley residents have since reported seeing strange objects and brilliant lights manoeuvring in the night sky, including several 'close encounter' reports. On the night of Wednesday, April 20, 1988, scores of people in different parts of the town observed a strange oblong object carrying white, red and green lights as well as two brilliant searchlights. Once again this object was first sighted in the area of Hoyland and Wombwell where numerous other sightings have occurred, in an area of electricity pylons, resevoirs and open woodland.

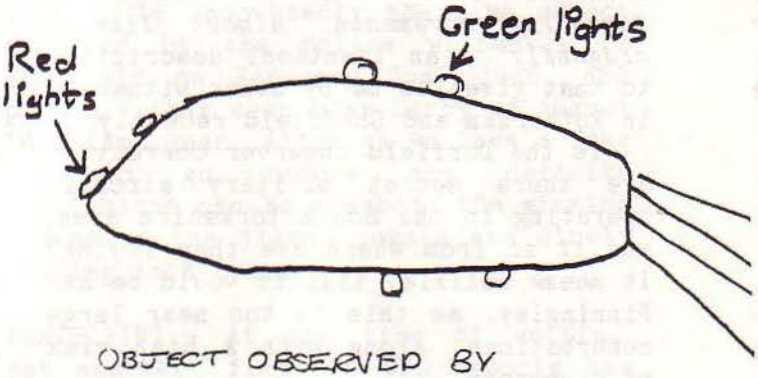
The local newspaper, the Barnsley Chronicle, really went to town over the sightings, and once again published three of the sequence of photographs taken by Peter Beard in its May 6th issue, subsequently receiving much correspondence from readers on the subject.

I was lucky to obtain first-hand accounts from many of the key witnesses to the recent sighting thanks to the help of John Threlkeld, a reporter on the Barnsley Chronicle. The first sighting to be reported was that of 38-year old David Gibson (pseudonym) who, when returning home to Elsecar from Ecclesfield at 10pm on April 20th, saw a 'really strange' object hovering in the sky over Hoyland.. *"although it was dark I could see it was a vague box-shape and there were big green, white and red lights on it which stayed lit up all the time. It was huge and it was absolutely still, and what really surprised me was that it didn't make a sound. I thought it must be some sort of aircraft, but it was so still and quiet it couldn't possibly have been."*

After stopping his car several times to observe the object more closely, he arrived home and drew his wife's attention to its presence. They watched as the object moved slowly across the sky to the west and disappeared.

CLOSE ENCOUNTER AT WOMBWELL

Several miles away to the northeast, shortly before this sighting took place, Mrs Linda Sage and her 13-year old daughter had a terrifying experience whilst returning home to Broomhill from Wombwell at 9:45 pm. As they descended into the village along an isolated country road, Mrs Sage's daughter suddenly exclaimed *"Look at that funny thing in the sky, mam!"*.



OBJECT OBSERVED BY LINDA SAGE, BROOMHILL, BARNSLEY, 9·45pm, 20·4·88

Hovering in the sky before them was a large, dark oblong object with red, green and big white lights around its circumfrence, some of them flashing on and off. As it came nearer *"it hovered round us and came lower down; it then turned all its lights out and then put two big white spotlights on my daughter and myself - my daughter became quite frightened and said 'Mam, what is it, what shall we do?',; all this time the big white lights were upon us. I also became frightened and said to her 'just*

keep walking, we have to get home'. When we started to walk again those big white lights went out and the small red, green and white lights came on again." The object was making a strange humming noise and was unlike any aircraft they had ever seen before.

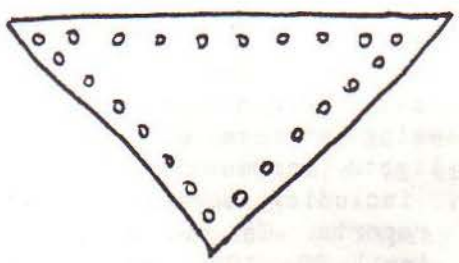
At this point the strange object moved off towards Wombwell, appearing over the streets of Darfield moments later, where it was observed by two ladies who saw a very large, silent object carrying white, red and green lights, for several minutes. One of them asked *"are the Ministry of Defence using an unusual type of aircraft that we don't know about?".*

Subsequently, other groups of witnesses in the north and west of Barnsley stood amazed as the UFO skirted the fringes of the town. Just after 10pm a large group of men leaving work at Redfearn Glassworks, in Cudworth, saw the object hovering silently with its coloured lights and bright yellow searchlight. One of them, Harry Reynolds, watched as it began to move.. *"it didn't make a sound"*, he said, *"it moved in a straight line with a series of thrusting movements, almost like a dragonfly"* - an identical description to that given to me by other witnesses in Rotherham and Sheffield recently.

Is the Darfield observer correct? - are there secret military aircraft operating in the South Yorkshire area, and if so from where are they flying? It seems unlikley that it would be RAF Finningley, as this is too near large conurbations, along with a high risk of discovery.

A clue towards what may be the answer has been provided by an incredible sighting report which has recently been investigated by the IUN. It occurred on April 20, 1988, the same night as the other UFO reports given above, near the village of Staincross, three miles to the northwest of the town of Barnsley.

At 8:30pm, as darkness was falling, over an hour before the UFO sightings further to the south began, 18-year old Sharon Cook (pseudonym) was walking with her boyfriend over open farmland between Staincross and the village of Wooley, when they noticed a man standing by the side of a car parked on Warren Lane, nearby. He had been there for some time, continually getting in and out of the car and apparently working some kind of 'aerial', which had been attatched to a post; all the while he kept staring up into the sky. After fifteen minutes the two puzzled witnesses were surprised when, all of a sudden, a 'triangle-shaped' object appeared in the sky and moved slowly overhead. It carried a number of coloured lights and made a slight hissing noise as it disappeared over the fields towards Wooley, although little detail could be made out against the dark sky.



OBJECT OBSERVED AT STAINCROSS, BARNSLEY, 8·30pm, 20·4·88

Simultaneously, according to the witnesses story, a fleet of four or five cars appeared on Warren Lane and *"looked as if they were chasing this object."* These cars appeared to have spotlights attached to them which the occupants were using *"to search the fields and everywhere"*. These cars disappeared at high speed in the distance apparently in pusuit of the flying object; the man with the 'aerial', and his car had also deparetd at the same time. Neither the man or any of the cars were in any way out of the ordinary according to the witnesses, but they are adament that the three were connected.

If this strange story is true - and there is no grounds for believing otherwise, as neither witness was interested in publicity - then it appears to provide first hand evidence that, as recently suggested to me by IUN investigator Gary Anthony, someone is operating some kind of low-flying, short-range reconnaissance aircraft or

drone regularly in the north of England, which is generating the large and consistent number of sightings of this large triangular or 'V' shaped UFO of which well over 50 sightings have been reported since the beginning of 1987.

IUN's Leicester investigator, Clive Potter, has also received a flood of similar recent sightings in the Midlands. However, we are no nearer discovering where this craft is based (if it has a permenant base at all) and who is operating it. Could it even be possible that the object is being deliberatly used to generate a wave of 'UFO' sightings, as an experiment of some kind or as a clever way of covering up covert activities?

STEALTH TECHNOLOGY - THE ANSWER?

On January 12th this year the national press reported that *"America is planning to build a new spy plane which will not show up on radar..the long-range aircraft will be able to fly at speeds of almost 4,000 mph on the edge of space, and carry out missions for the CIA"*. This new craft would be one of three aircraft currently under development, including the B2 Stealth bomber and the F19 fighter, some of which are known to operating out of the USAF base at Alconbury in Cambridgeshire. Stealth technology includes chameleon-style fuselage material which soaks up radar beams, body surfaces which deflect radar and special devices to cut down on exhaust heat and noise.

Is it possible that prototype reconnaisance aircraft such as these are being tested out over the north of England under great secrecy, those observations that are reported being regarded as 'just another crazy UFO story'? Many cases checked out by IUN investigators recently appear to give credence to the above.

At 9:20 pm on March 3rd this year a group of three Manchester University students were returning home to Sheffield over the A628 Woodhead Road, when at the highest point of the moors they saw *"a large triangular object move across the sky from south to north travelling over the Howden Moors towards Emley Moor TV mast which was clearly visible (in the distance). The object was triangular in shape, defined by red lights which were equi-spaced - about seven in number - there were no white or green navigation lights normally seen on an aircraft, the object travelled point of triangle first, like a delta-wing, at around 3000ft altitude."* On the same night, a similar object was observed by lorry driver and IUN member Barry Bellamy, whilst on the A1 in Yorkshire. Another similar brilliantly-lighted object was observed by Lancashire ufologist Cath Calvo and her colleaugues on the night of March 26th, when returning home across the Pennines from a YUFOS conference in Rotherham!

Recently, Humberside police gave IUN's Hull investigator Gary Anthony details of yet another observation which took place at 10pm on Wednesday, April 13, 1988 when two witnesses saw what they described as *'two triangular-shaped objects with flashing white lights'*...travelling from east to west at about 2,000 feet, from Normanby Park steelworks towards the Queensbury steelworks in Scunthorpe.

This 'delta-wing', V or triangular-shaped object/s, with its red and white lights, is undoubtedly the same object observed by the police witnesses in Sheffield on February 2nd, 1988, and probably that seen over Derby on August 16th last year. Although we have a long way to go before any definite conclusions can be reached, the missing pieces of the jigsaw puzzle are slowly falling into place.

POSTSCRIPT:- At the time of writing, yet another 'flap' of UFO reports has occurred in the Barnsley area on the night of Thursday, May 5th, 1988. One report involves a large object with flashing lights pacing and hovering directly above a moving automobile.

Further details will appear in the next issue of UFO BRIGANTIA, by which time a comprehensive volume of investigations into the 1987-88 wave of sightings in the South Yorkshire area will be available from the IUN.

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UBATUBA....AN INVESTIGATION UNFINISHED

by Regina Cullen

In September 1957 fragments from an allegedly exploded flying disc were recovered at Ubatuba, Brazil. Subsequent analysis and investigation has not been entirely satisfactory. With the current revival of interest in crash/retrieval cases Ubatuba seems to have been overlooked.

I've been wondering, with the demise of APRO, what has become of the recovered magnesium fragments which presumably were still in APRO's possession. The editor of the new American magazine, STRANGE (which may soon be on the UK newsstands), has told me that he too is interested to know, and intends to make enquiries. I do hope he succeeds in discovering the fate of these extraordinary samples of what may well be alien metal.

Just supposing Ubatuba occurred as we are told, it seems to me it definitely ranks along with Roswell as not deserving the flak and scorn crashed saucers attract from some quarters. I don't think enough has been made of the fact that it predated Sputnik 1 (people persist in mentioning a satellite re-entry as a possible explanation) and it also seems (but I don't have at my disposal all that has been written about it) that Dow Chemical Co. has not been adequately sounded out on their early experiments with highly purified magnesium. For example I will reproduce a paragraph from Margaret Sachs' THE UFO ENCYLCOPEDIA:

> Authors David Saunders and Roger Harkins argue that the most significant aspect of the Ubatuba fragments concerns the absence of certain elements. They claim that if the metal were a terrestrial alloy, it might contain aluminum or copper or both. There was no aluminum and only a trace of copper. In addition, they point out, there was no calcium in the fragments. Had someone performed the extremely difficult task of removing the calcium, he or she would almost certainly have had to use a quartz vessel which would have contaminated the magnesium with a minute quantity of silicon. Yet analysis revealed no silicon. Utilizing the best techniques known to purify magnesium at that time would have required repeated sublimation of the metal under a very high vacuum. The mercury-vapour pump that could create the necessary vacuum would have resulted in mercury contamination. No mercury was found in the samples.

If Dow Chemical could show why these anomalies could exist in terrestrially produced magnesium (did anyone else make such a material?) Ubatuba still could be extraterrestrial in origin. If no explanation is to be had, however, (and it seems none is) then what we are left with but a very provocative situation? It was the Condon Committee, to whom APRO sent a metal sample, which dealt with Dow's search into its early experiments and one must wonder if all the evidence was considered fairly in the drawing up of the Committee's conclusion that the fragments could have been made on earth. It should not be forgotten that Dr. David Saunders left the Condon Committee under protest at its political attitude... and co-authored UFO's? Yes! with Roger Harkins, from which the above information in Maragaret Sachs is derived.

Ubatuba is very important. Maybe the contradictions in the metallurgical analyses which have been done so far will some day be resolved...if the fragments are preserved. Well, Mr Chorvinsky, let us know forthwith what you discover...

Reference: The UFO Encyclopedia, Maragaret Sachs, Corgi Books, 1981, pp. 329-30.

Editors note: UFO BRIGANTIA hope to be publishing a much larger article by Regina, dealing with the Ubatuba alien metal fragments, in a future issue.





IUN REPORTS

The IUN now have two comprehensive reports detailing two seperate UFO sighting 'flaps' within the last twelve months. The AUGUST REPORT (author David Clarke is a 30 + page document giving a full account of the many sightings in the north of England during August 1987, and the HULL REPORT (author Gary Anthony) is a 21 page report centering on the flap of UFO sightings over the Humberside region on the 9th of December 1987. Each report also contains photo-copies of newspapers clippings and letters from the M.O.D., police forces and airfields. Each report is only £3 (inc p&p- Europe £3:50- USA $6)) and they are available (cheques & po's payable to Dave Kelly) from IUN member Dave Kelly, 103 Hunloke Drive, Walton, Chesterfield, Derbyshire. S40 3EA. Please allow three weeks for delivery.

HELP

Assistance wanted by Robert Moore in analysis of a cine film showing supposed UFO over Mount Sinai, taken in July 1987 (UFO-image on 8mm positive film). If you can help in any way please contact Robert at 83, Church Road, East Huntspill, Highbridge, Somerset TA9 3NG.

SPI JOURNAL

Malcolm Robinson of the SPI (Strange Phenomena Investigations) writes to say that the SPI Newsletter is available for £3 for twelve monthly issues. From 4 Woodlea Park, Branshill, Sauchie, Clackmannanshire, Scotland, FK10 3BG.

FOR SALE

New Lands by Charles Fort, p/b £2: Flying Saucers Have Landed by D. Leslie & G. Adamski, h/b £1:75: The Dragon & The Disc (2 copies) by F.W. Holiday, p/b, £1:50 ea.: Psychic Warfare, ed. by John White, NEW, £3:50: Points of Cosmic Energy by Blanch Merle, p/b, NEW, £4: The Cosmic Pulse of Life by T.J. Constable, h/b £4:00: UFO Conspiracy by Jenny Randles, NEW h/b, £4: Communion by Whitelie Streiber, NEW h/b £4: The Warminster Mystery by Arthur Shuttlewood, p/b £1: Challenge to Science & Anatomy of a Phenomeon by Jaques Vallee, p/b's, £1 ea. All prices inc. p&p from editorial address.

WANTED

Jadoo by John Keel, Black Thursday by Martin Caidin, A Look Through Secret Doors (1969) by ? Macklin, Earthlink Magazine n. 12 Oct 1982 (copy will do). If you have any of these for sale please write to the editor. Thanks

LIVINGSTON REVISITED

Dave Kelly

An account of Dave Kelly and Philip Mantle's journey to Scotland to give a lecture and to meet and re-interview Robert Taylor, 'star' of the Livingston CE case. Any reader wishing a transcript of the interview should send an sae to Dave Kelly at; 103 Hunloke Drive, Chesterfield, Derbyshire. Enclose an sae.

Day One:

On a typical wet May morning Philip and I left for Stirling, Scotland and arrived at our hotel at 2pm and after resting awhile we phoned our friend and host for the weekend Malcolm Robinson of the SPI and arranged to meet him and his collaugues in the 'Rob Roy', this being their local hostelry. Then we continued on our way to the SPI HQ where we were to hear a talk on Witchcraft by a renowned Scottish witch by the name of Charles Heath. Last on the agenda was a talk by Philip on the Barnsley UFO sighting, this was accompanied by slides and received a good impression with many questions from our audience, which all made for a lively and interesting evening. As this had been thirsty work, we then adjourned to the 'Rob Roy' and much later from there to our Hotel for a much needed sleep.

Day Two:

This found us on our way to visit Robert Taylor, of Livingston fame. For those who are not familiar with the case, Robert, who at the time was employed by the Development Corporation and was on the morning of Friday 9th November 1979 attending to his normal duties when he was confronted by a large craft situated on the ground about 12 yards in front of him. As he stared in amazement two objects resembling sea mines appeared from the back of the craft, rolling fast towards him, then attaching themselves to either side of his trousers. The now frightened forester tried to fight them off as he felt himself being pulled forward. At this point he lost consciousness, the last thing he remembers was a choking, repugnant chemical smell. On regaining his senses he recalled hearing a high pitched sound, but on looking around could see nothing- the craft and two objects had disappeared, and the rest is history.

It was a beautiful day when we arrived at Blairgowrie where Robert and his wife life after his retirment. Here we were made most welcome and after refreshments we got down to some in-depth talking with Robert regarding his past experience. A tape recording was made and photos taken, in all a very pleasant morning.

Next we headed back to Stirling and onto Livingston, some 65 miles south. Here we visited the site of the encounter. Although the area had altered some over the years Malcolm eventually found it, housing estates having sprung up plus the change in shape of the surrounding forests. Again more photos were taken, this time of the area. We then left Livingston and headed for Sauchie and the home of Malcolm Robinson.

Day Three:

After a hearty breakfast we grudgeingly had to say goodbye to Stirling and Scotland and made our make south and home arriving in Chesterfield just after 2pm after covering some one thousand and twenty odd miles in all.

Once again let me express our thanks to Malcolm, his wife and all their friends who helped to make the weekend a memorable one. Not forgetting Robert Taylor and his wife for the kindness they showed during our short but interesting visit to their home. Last but not least we hope that in the very near future we will have the pleasure of returning some hospitality to Malcolm when he pays us a visit.

'...these hoaxes were very complicated and expensive, and the perpetrators obviously had both imagination and a sense of humour. Flying saucers enthusiasts are notably lacking in these qualifications.....'
John Keel 1971

A DREAM- A REALITY

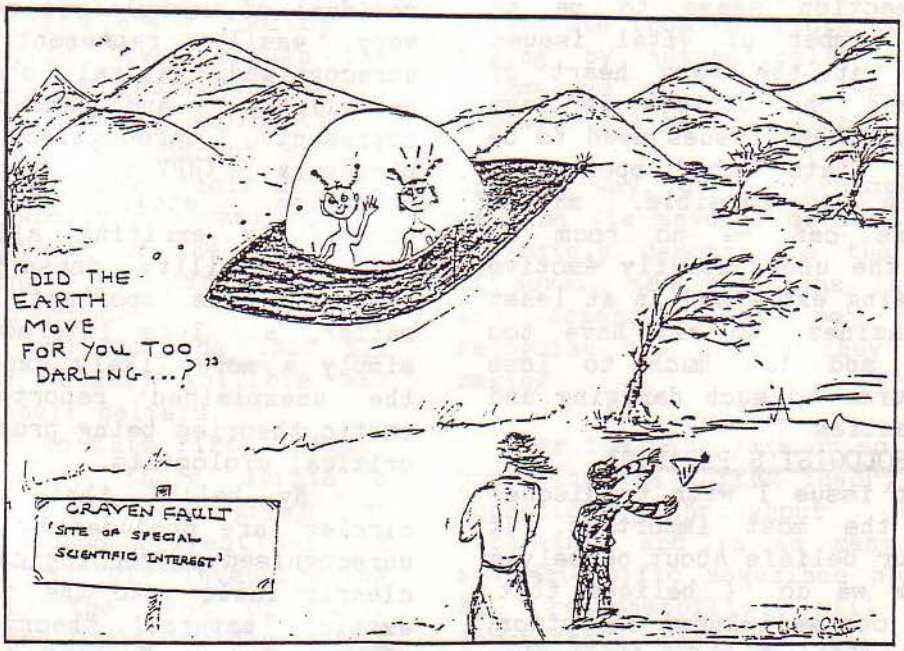
Dave Kelly

It is with great pleasure that the IUN can announce what we consider to be a first for ufology. We have received confirmation from our good friends and colleagues in Scotland that a stone plinth and plaque is to be placed on the spot where Robert Taylor had his encounter with a UFO in 1979 (see previous article).

The above all came about after the SPI movement in Scotland had contacted the Development Corporation, who amongst other things, maintains this sections of wooded area. It was found out that phase one of a new policy for Dechmont Wood had just been completed, comprising of cutting new paths through the woods, laying down layers of wood chippings and throughout the woods erecting picnic benches and seats on concrete piers. All this and more to encourage visitors to walk and take pleasure in the loveley wooded areas of Livingston .

After numerous 'phone calls, a meeting was arranged between Malcolm Robinson, SPI, and Mr Dean Swift, who is principle Landscape Architect for Dechmont Law. Malcolm spoke at some length regarding the companies achievements to innovate and then suggested they might like to mark the UFO area is some way as this would be of interest to visitors. This was received with a lot of interest by the company and it has now been decided that in phase two of alterations the stone plinth and plaque will be erected on the area of the encounter, the plaque itself to be designed by the SPI. Details and updates on this matter will be given in a later journal.

Philip Mantle and myself feel that in a way the IUN played a very minor part in this as during our visit we voiced our opinion regarding this as a visitors attraction, but we didn't realise at the time how well Malcolm had the project in hand.
Well done Malcolm.



CARTOON BY CLIVE POTTER

UFOLOGY & UFOLOGISTS
OUR PARADIGM & OUR PROBLEMS

by Paul Fuller

Over the past 3½ years I have been actively investigating those mysterious circles of flattened arable crop which appear every summer across Southern England, to a chorus of wild speculation by ufologists and the media. As BUFORA's RIC my task has been to photograph and measure the circle formations, to liaise with interested scientific organisations, and to accurately record what has been occuring for science and posterity. My responsibility to ufology has been to evaluate the phenomenon to the best of my ability and to discuss my findings as widely as possible in the UFO literature so that other ufologists may make a more informed assessment of what has, and what has not, been taking place.

To my surprise, and to my deep concern, a large section of the UFO movement has already rejected my findings - even before they have been disseminated - and one magazine has been expressing Moral Outrage simply because I am promoting a 'natural', non-UFO based explanation for the circles. This emotive and totally misplaced reaction seems to me to highlight a number of vital issues which strike at the very heart of ufologists and the beliefs we have about ufology. These issues need to be brought out into the open and discussed in a sensible, mature manner. There can be no room in ufology for the unnecessarily emotive sentiments being expressed in at least two UFO magazines, we all have too much to do and too much to lose without recourse to such damaging and irrelevant tactics.

THE UFOLOGIST'S PARADIGM

The first issue I wish to discuss is clearly the most important. It relates to our beliefs about ourselves and the work we do. I believe that, with perhaps one well-known exception, all the ufologists I know (including myself) believe that some of the UFO reports we receive represent *"novel new phenomena"* (Hynek), and that it is our responsibility to persuade a sceptical, unwilling world to recognise this fact. In many ways it does not matter in the slightest what these phenomena really are, what is important to us is the fact that they are unrecognised and unidentified (it appeals to our sense of justice).

The second point I wish to discuss is this utterly overwhelming obsession by large numbers of ufologists with exciting, exotic explanatory models for the unexplained reports we recieve. It is this obsession which so damages our cause (issue 1 above) and which makes us all apear so foolish evertime a ufologist publically states, without the slightest scrap of supporting evidence, that a UFO report he has investigated represents an 'alien device' or a 'paranormal UFO' (?) !!

Of course, such incredible claims could (however remotely) be true, however, the very fact that nine tenths of our reports represent mundane natural (and man-made) phnomena argues strongly against this belief in exotic explanations. The 10% residual of unexplained reports could very easily represent previously unrecognised natural phenomena (eg earthlights), and almost certainly represent unrecognised man-made phenomena (RPV's, byproducts of pollution etc), rather than wonderfully exciting alien devices. This possibility doesn't make our cause any less important, nor for that matter, any less interesting. It is simply a more likely explanation for the unexplained reports than the exotic theories being promoted by less critical ufologists.

My belief that the 'mystrey circles' are produced by a previously unrecognised meteorological phenomenon clearly falls into the class of less exotic, 'natural' theories, yet FSR (Flying Saucer Review) interprets my belief as some kind of threat to this obsession with exotic ('paranormal') UFO's. GSR's contributors do not seem to realise that a previously unrecognised meteorological phenomenon

is just as valid as their more speculative theories, and just as exciting and fascinating as their wild and wishful thinking. Indeed, if we are pedantic about it, the 'mystery circles' are being created by UFO's - by an unidentified natural Vortex - so why are FSR's contributors so upset by my support for the vortex theory? Why do they dismiss me in such emotive and insulting terms?

THE BATTLE FOR SUPREMACY

I believe that many of you reading this article do not fully appreciate the enormous rift that exists within the UFO movement and the problems this creates for us all. The truth is that the UFO movement is perpetually at war with itself because because it is composed of two, quite seperate factions of ufologists, each trying to supress each other in a battle for supremacy.

On the one hand, there exists a very much larger group of people who occasionally actually investigate UFO reports, who claim to be ufologists, and who seem to accept anything and everything related to UFO's without the slightest criticism or questioning. To these people. every UFO report represents something exciting and sensational, which needs to be shouted from every rooftop to the waiting world (even though the chances are that any individual report has an ordinary, mundane explanation). These people have no concept of how the outside world views their actions and they are wholly responsible for the total dismissal of the extensive and challenging UFO data by the (poorly informed) scientific establishment, who conclude that all ufologists are equally gullible and irrational in their beliefs.

In contrast to this first (highly vociferous) group, there exists a smaller, more critical group of ufologists who spend a great deal of time and money quitely investigating UFO reports to the best of their ability and who deliberately avoid making sensational claims in our literature or to the media because they realise that this approach simply results in a dismissal of all our data by the critics and the debunkers. These ufologists have learned to treat every UFO report as a potential misidentifictaion because they appreciate that most of our reports are perfectly identifiable given a minimum of effort. These ufologists also believe that there are 'unrecognised' phenomena in the UFO data, but their approach earns them the undying wrath of the less critical ufologists who interpret their attempts to rationalise the subject as a threat to the UFO movement and the underlying beliefs which bind us all together.

What is so sad and so damaging to our movement is that instead of devoting our resources to tackling the real task at hand - the investigation and evaluation of the UFO data - we instead spend a disporportionate amount of time and energy fighting each other in this war for supremacy. What we should be doing is:

1. Objectively investigating reports and associated phenomena.
2. Producing a relatively accessible collection of well-investigated full case studies for use by qualified scientists and researchers, and
3. Persuading sympathetic scientists to examine our data behind closed doors at their own leisure (to protect scientists from the risks they will be taking by automatically associating themselves with the less critical ufologists I have been describing).

In this way, over a prolonged period of time (ie several decades), we will ultimately demonstrate the existence of novel, new phenomena in our data and science will be forced to recognise the errors they have been making.

SUMMARY

Over the next year or so, I will be promoting the Vortex Theory of Circle Formation throughout the UFO literature and in as many technical and scientific magazines as possible. My responsibilty will be to demonstrate that not all ufologists believe in 'cover ups' and 'extraterrestrials' in the glib, uncritical manner being proposed by FSR and its correspondents. My purpose behind this strategy will be to associate ufologists with more

rational and less sensational theories so that scientists and skeptics alike will be forced to take us all a lot more seriously.

I very much hope that despite the fact that some ufologists find the Vortex Theory to be boring and unexiting, this strategy will not result in any more insulting and dismissive comments by FSR and its contributors, and that I will receive greater support from those ufologists who aspire to the second group I have described above (and who do not dismiss a theory even before it has been explained in full in a responsible manner). Ufology is not about immediately accepting the most outlandish and sensational explanations for those reports we cannot explain, it is about carefully evaluating our data and encouraging academics and scientists to demonstrate that, after the disasters of our predecessors, we have matured and learnt to treat the world in a more careful and rational manner.

To those ufologists who prefer to believe in 'paranormal UFO's', and who take every opportunity to discredit us all in the eyes of our peers. leave us ufologists alone and take your wishful thinking elsewhere!

Copyright Paul Fuller (BUFORA) 10th July 1988



FIRE FROM THE GODS? - New insights on the Minster Fire, by Angus McClean, illustrations by Edna Whelan; published by Northern Lights, PO Box 113, Dunnington, York YO1 5JW, £2:50 plus p&p, ISBN 1 869939 06 9.

This is the latest publication to appear from Ian Taylor's Earth Mysteries publishing venture, Northern Lights, and differs from previously published tomes in that this offering is obviously aimed at a wider audience, being a slim 50 page illustrated booklet which I am sure will be well-received by earth mysterians, pagans and ufologists throughout Brigantia.

The subject matter is, despite the title, mainly a condensation and summary of the subject matter dealt with more extensively in Ian Taylor's previous work the Giant Of Penhill (Northern Lights- reviewed in a previous UFO BRIGANTIA), dealing with the folk-legend of a lost terrestrial hill figure upon the slopes of Penhill, Wensleydale, North Yorkshire, and associated legends attatched to it including the obligatory 'ley-lines'. Cobbled onto this interesting material are a number of quotations from past issues of UFO BRIGANTIA (which McClean describes-pg 42- as "the North's leading UFO journal"- tee-hee!) dealing with light phenomena linked with religious revivals which are connected with the UFO-related fire which devastated York Minster in July 1984.

Both McClean and Taylor believe that the Minster for was due to a manifestation of 'earth energy' (though whatever this means is never explained) connected with an astronomical alignment linking Penhill with York Minster. Although this is an ingenious theory which despite its apparent lunacy does have its merits, it will take more than information obtained " from a student of Chinese astrology" and a jumbled mass of lines drawn on an O.S. map to convince the more sceptical reader. Despite the above I recommend the book as an excellent example of how ufology and Earth Mysteries are intimately connected.

Review by David Clarke.

I have seen much and my childish sense of wonder remains unshaken. But Charles Fort's question always haunts me: 'If there is a universal mind, must it be sane?'
John Keel 1975

PURPLE HAZE?
THE ROUNDHAY PARK ABDUCTION

Philip Mantle

INTRODUCTION

On Thursday 7 July I received a call from Jenny Randles, Director of Investigations for BUFORA. Nothing unusual about that, but Jenny had received information regarding a possible abduction in Roundhay Park in Leeds. Names and addresses of the witnesses involved were passed on to me and a full investigation of the case was planned to start the next day.

RADIO AIRE

No sooner had attepmts to contact the witnesses involved begun when the local independent radio station, Radio Aire, carried a brief interview with the witnesses concerned. According to the statement by Martin Cohen, the 'abductee', he had been walking through Roundhay Park at around 10:30 pm on June 30th 1988, when he observed a 'purple glow'. His body supposedly went numb and he was weak and his eyes became very sensitive to light. Mr Cohen then was supposed to have blacked out and the next thing he could remember was being in a room surrounded by 'furry women'. He was strapped to a bed of some kind and these furry women seemed to be prodding him, at which point ne blacked out again. The next thing he knew was being shaken by a man in Roundhay Park and it was now 6;30 am on Friday 1st of July. Apparently 8 hours of Mr Cohen's life was missing. Mr Cohen went on to say that this had really happened and that he had at one time served in the police force and that he was not a nutter and that this incident was not a hoax.

Alongside Mr Cohen on the radio broadcast was a Michael Cotran, who was allegedly the man who found Mr Cohen in the park. Mr Cotran stated that he was jogging through the park when he saw in front of him a purple glow with the body of a man within it. After a few seconds the glow faded away and he saw Mr Cohen lying on the ground in a distressed state. Not only that, according to Mr Cotran there were other witnesses around who had also seen this happen, one of which was a girl who was distressed by all this and a number of people at a nearby bus stop had also witnessed these events. Mr Cotran wanted to take this man to the hospital but all he could get out of him was something like *"they've taken me"*, and that he wanted to go home. Both witnesses stated that they had no explanation for the events they had allegedly been involved in.

I am grateful to Radio Aire for allowing me to listen to the interview they had on tape at their studios in Leeds. After this interview was broadcast on Radio Aire a number of annonymous people had come forward stating that they had also witnesses these events in Roundhay Park.

YORKSHIRE EVENING POST

Before I could meet the witnesses in person I had spoken to them on the telephone and their story remained basically the same as told on Radio Aire. A meeting was arranged for Sunday 10 July and both witnesses were to be present. Before this meeting took place, on Saturday 9th July, the case was front page in the Leeds newspaper, the Evening Post. The headlines read "ALIEN ABDUCTION IN THE PARK". The newspaper story reads like this.

> A FORMER special constable's story of how he was abducted by aliens in a purple light at Roundhay Park, Leeds, could remain one of the world's great mysteries, say UFO experts.
>
> The British Unidentified Flying Objects Research Committee has launched a team investigation into the night-time phenomena, reported to have occurred on June 30.
>
> They say it could take months to find out if the experience, witnessed by several independent callers to the *YEP*, can be put down to freak weather conditions.
>
> If it cannot, it will become one of the five per cent of unexplained anomalies in the world.
>
> At 10.30 pm on the Thursday in question, 21-year-old Mr Martin Cohen, of Clarendon Road, Headingley, Leeds, was walking through Roundhay Park to meet a friend for a drink at the Mansion House. Mr Cohen, a former special constable at Chapeltown police station, said: "Suddenly I saw a purple glow. The next thing I knew I was lifted up and carried off the ground. My body went numb and my eyes felt dizzy.

"I then saw some figures of what looked to be women. They were like humans except they were furry. Then I just blacked out with the shock."

Later several anonymous people telephoned the *YEP* newsdesk to say they had seen a purple light in the park with a man in the centre of it.

On Friday, July 1, Leeds rock band member Mr Michael Cotran, 23, of Woodlands Drive, Rawdon, was jogging in Roundhay Park at 6.30 am when he says he saw a purple glow 30 yards in front of him on the pathway near the Mansion House.

"At first I thought I was seeing things and then I noticed the body of a man in a grey suit lying on the ground. There was no body on the ground before the light appeared.

"My first impression was that it was a dead body. I was quite frightened and in a state of shock. When the man, who I now know to be Martin, woke up, he was very weak, in a cold sweat and was rambling on, saying, 'I have had this weird experience. I have been somewhere else.'"

He added: "I don't blame anyone for not taking us seriously. Neither of us has believed in UFOs before, either. But we are not mad and we do know what we saw. Something happened in Roundhay Park which is very frightening and I think people should be told about it."

IUN INTERVIEW

Interesting stuff I'm sure you will agree. Well, attempts to arrange a meeting with the witnesses on Saturday failed but along with my colleague David Clarke, we did manage to speak with both witnesses on Sunday 10th July. The interview was held at the home of Mr Cohen and was taped. During the interview both witnesses stuck to their original story, but one or two discrepancies were noticed. We were also informed that a large gentleman and a woman had also called earlier to see Mr Cohen and that they had allegedly offered him money for his story. Mr Cohen informed us that he could not remember the name of the people he had spoken to but that they belonged to the Yorkshire UFO Society (YUFOS). We didn't know what to make of this statement and before we could proceed any further the interview was brought to and end by some of Mr Cohen's friends arriving to see him. (A transcript of this interview is available)

ON SITE INVESTIGATION

We left the house and were taken to the alleged scene of the incident by Mr Cotran. The area in Roundhay Park where the incident was supposed to have taken place was only a matter of perhaps 150 yards from the entrance to the park and right on a busy footpath. Just in case the case was bona-fide soil samples were taken as a precautionary measure. Nothing unusual was noted at the site.

BEHIND THE SCENES INVESTIGATION

By now behind the scenes investigation of the two witnesses was underway. We unvovered that both the witnesses concerned were not 100% reliable, for reasons that are confidential and we cannot publish. Save to say that the credibilty of the witness was extremely low thanks to information provided to us from various sources. This was the first indication that something was not quite right with the case and our suspicions were naturally aroused.

YUFOS COOPERATION

Knowing that the Yorkshire UFO Society (YUFOS) were also investigating the case I personally attempted to contact by phone their Director of Investigations, Mark Ian Birdsall, to discuss the case, but he would not talk to me and simply put the phone down. So much for YUFOS cooperation. Thankfully not everyone in YUFOS are as silly as this and I am grateful to YUFOS investigator George Wild and his daughter for supplying our contacts in the world of journalism with the YUFOS viewpoint on the case. I would also like to thank Radio, Aire, the Yorkshire Evening Post and other journalists, notably Graeme Forbes, from Hull, Wakefield, South Yorkshire and Wimbledon for supplying me with valuable information.

YUFOS investigator Mr George Wild informed us that during the YUFOS interview with the witnesses they expressed a wish for financial reward on several occasions and that he believed that they had created a hoax purely for financial gain. Mr Wild also informed us that the YEP had obtained information from people who had allegedly been approached by the two witnesses concerned and offered money to say that they had seen what happened. However, Mr Wild went on to say that they could not rule out that there may have been a genuine UFO sighting of some sort but that the abduction story was a complete

fabrication. Mr Wild seems to have based a lot of his conclusions on the fact that the credibilty of the witnesses did not exactly hold up. To give you an example of what I mean this is taken from the tape recorded conversation between Mr Wild and a journalist from London, when he is talking about Mr Cohen: *"His background in actual fact er, you see the credibility of the actual occurence is negated by the erm, dubious background of the witness. You see yourself, if you report a story, the story is only as good as the witness"*. Mr Wild went on to inform the reporter of his great knowledge of ufology by also stating that BUFORA was located in Lancashire (it is in fact based in London and has no branch in Lancashire- information editor), and that I (PM) was turning professsional because I was writing a book. Later YUFOS howlers made available to us alleged that I (PM) had the witness hypnotically regressed all day - something which is too ridiculous to even comment on.

YUFOS ON RADIO AIRE

Both Radio Aire and the YEP later informed us that Mark Birdsall of YUFOS was to denounce the case as the mosr elaborate hoax ever and this he duly did on Radio Aire on July 14th, although to date (16/7/88) the YEP has not run the hoax statement from YUFOS. In fact the reporter dealing with the case at the YEP is still in two minds about the whole incident and is quite fed up with the whole affair.

STICKING TO HIS STORY

The day before Mark Birdsall was to make his grand statement to the nation denouncing the case as the most elaborate hoax the unviverse (surely the cosmos?-ed) has ever seen, I asked Mr Cohen, the main witness, what he thought of the whole thing. I have to say that he still stuck to his story and so far he has not admitted to carrying out a hoax.

CONCLUSION

If indeed this case is a hoax perpetrated for financial gain, then the two people concerned have gone about it in totally the wrong way. At no time did they ask the radio station or the YEP for any money, and I know for a fact that a journalist from London who contacted them about the story was not asked for money either. Could it be that once again YUFOS have got hold of the wrong end of the stick by suggesting to the witnesses in the first place that the story was worth money?

Could it be that the witnesses simply did it for a prank to get a bit of publicity for the rock band, bearing in kind that Michael Jackson was playing in Roundhay Park later in July? Or could they have seen a light in the sky and made up the rest of the story around it. We should also not forget that the whole thing could even be genuine. Even people with dubious backgrounds can have such experiences.

I would like to remain on the fence over this one. Thanks to the 'over enthusiastic' efforts of YUFOS we will probably never get to the bottom of this story. There are only two people who know the truth of the matter and thanks to Mark Birdsall's historic radion announcement they have gone to ground. Somehow I don't think that we have heard the last of this case and the next issue of the YUFOS publication, QUEST, should be even more amusing than usual.
Whatever happens with this case you can be assured that I will do my best to bring the facts to light in the pages of UFO BRIGANTIA and not via Radio Aire.

STOP PRESS

Literally as I was writing this account for inclusion in UFO BRIGANTIA, I have had a call from Mr Cotran who categorically states that the case is not a hoax and that the accusations levelled at him and Mr Cohen by Mark Birdsall and the Yorkshire UFO Society are totally untrue. Mr Cotran is at a loss as to why YUFOS have accused him of lying and of hoaxing, and at no time has he or Mr Cohen asked for any money in conjunction with the case. Mr Cotran went on to inform me of various other things regarding the YUFOS

'investigation' of the case which I am not at liberty to publish at this moment. My colleagues and I were just about to label this case closed but due to new information given to me by Mr Cotran, it still remains open and further investigations will be under way in due course.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT
THE JOHN LEAR STATEMENT

UFO BRIGANTIA are extremely pleased to be able to be the first UK (probably the first worldwide) UFO magazine to publish what has become known in ufological circles as 'The John Lear Statement' (JLS). This statement was written by John Lear *"for a few close friends after a year of intensive investigation including a 4 week trip throughout Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico interviewing those involved in the coverup who would not talk to me over the telephone but who would brief me face to face."* Mr Lear considers it only as a 'working hypothesis' which by further investigation he hopes to prove. The statement became public when one of Mr Lear's friends put it on the Paranet computer network and from there it got onto Compuserve.

The content of the JLS is to my mind bizarre, far-fetched and quite frankly unbelievable, and yet it is only a continuation and extension of the crash/retrieval tales and the ufological escapades and document discoveries of Moore, Friedman and Shandera *er al.* We are either dealing with a truth so monstorous that it makes the stories of H. P. Lovecraft and Whitely Streiber look like, well, look like stories, or we have a modern folktale which is being intentionally fueled by 'people in high places' for reasons we can only speculate about. Either way I don't know, when you've finished reading the JLS I'll bet you don't either.

Lear has also supplied me with additional material which backs up and gives sources for many of the amazing facts contained in the JLS and further material pertaining to both the original and the current versions of MJ12, which I have been asked to keep confidential. Lear's account interweaves with the available facts given to the ufological community by various other sources and cannot be dismissed lightly. Lear himself is no 'nobody' and amongst his various credentials are: captain of a major charter airline, test pilot for the Lear Jet Corporation, pilot for the CIA in various locations, the only holder of every airman certificate issue by the Federal Aviation Administration, etc etc. I can hear cries of 'CIA plant' and 'set up' already and if it were nearer April I'd suspect an April Fool's day joke (I'm still not sure it isn't). Equally it could be a well set up (via the 'credible' witness angle) experiment to see how far the story goes and how it is treated. I'm sure John Lear won't mind me commenting thusly - others will not be so kind no doubt - and accounts of this nature can hardly be accepted without the most severe scrutiny.

I haven't changed my mind one bit about the crash/retreival/cover-up miasma but I'm intrigued as hell to see where these stories are leading us to and why. Fact or folklore, whatever, they are totally fascinating and UFO BRIGANTIA is always happy to make people aware of this sort of thing.

Perhaps it will come out that this is all a hoax but personally I doubt it. More than likely the JLS account will be blended in and re-told with the other accounts which go to make up the body of this type of folklore. On the other hand it may just all be true- I may be a clone of the aliens deliberately set up here in Brighouse (let's face it- non of you out there *really* know who I am do you?) to misinform you whilst they get on with the serious buisness of melting real humans down and digging big tunnels under important places. You'll never know until it's too late!

So, here it is, exactly as it was sent to me.

Statement Released By:
John Lear
December 29, 1987

John Lear, a captain for a major US Airline has flown over 160 different types of aircraft in over 50 different countries. He holds 17 world speed record in the Lear Jet and is the only pilot ever to hold every airman certificate issued by the Federal Aviation Administration. Mr. Lear has flown missions worldwide for the CIA and other government agencies. A former Nevada State Senator candidate, he is the son of William P. Lear, designer of the Lear Jet executive airplane, the 8-track stereo, and founder of Lear Siegler Corporation. Lear became interested in the subject of UFO's 13 months ago after talking with United States Air Force Personnel who had witnessed a UFO landing at Bentwaters AFB, near London, England, and three small aliens walking up to the Wing Commander.

Note to the Press:
The government of the United States continues to rely on your personal and professional gullibility to suppress the information contained herein. Your cooperation over the past 40 years has exceeded our wildest expectations and we salute you.

"The sun does not revolve around the Earth"
"The United States Government has been in business
with little gray extraterrestrials for about 20 years"

The first truth stated here got Giordano Bruno burned at the stake in AD 1600 for daring to propose that it was real. The second truth has gotten far more people killed trying to state it publicly than will ever be known.

But the truth must be told. The fact that the Earth revolves around the sun was successfully suppressed by the church for over 200 years. It eventually cause a major upheaval in the church, government, and thought. A realignment of social and traditional values. That was in the 1800's.

Now, about 400 years after the first truth was pronounced we must again face the shocking facts. The "horrible truth" the government has been hiding from us over 40 years. Unfortunately, the "horrible truth" is far more horrible than the government ever imagined.

In its effort to protect democracy, our government sold us to the aliens. And here is how it happened. But before I begin, I'd like to offer a word in the defense of those who bargained us away. They had the best of intentions.

Germany may have recovered a flying saucer as early as 1939. General James H. Doolittle went to Norway in 1952 to inspect a flying saucer that had crashed there in Spitzbergen.

The "horrible truth" was known by only a very few persons: They were indeed ugly little creatures, shaped like praying mantises and who were more advanced than us by perhaps a billion years. Of the original group that were the first to learn the "horrible truth", several committed suicide, the most prominent of which was Defense Secretary James V. Forrestal who jumped to his death from a 16th story hospital window. Secretary Forrestal's medical records are sealed to this day.

President Truman quickly put a lid on the secret and turned the screws so tight that the general public still thinks that flying saucers are a joke. Have I ever got a surprise for them.

In 1947, President Truman established a group of 12 of the top military scientific personnel of their time. They were known as MJ-12. Although the group exists today, none of the original members are still alive. The last one to die was Gordon Gray, former Secretary of the Army, in 1984. As each member passed away, the group itself appointed a new member to fill the position. There is some speculation that the group known as MJ-12 expanded to at least several more members.

There were several more saucer crashes in the late 1940's, one in Roswell, New Mexico, one in Aztec, New Mexico, and one near Laredo, Texas, about 30 miles inside the Mexican border.

Consider, if you will, the position of the United States Government at that time. They proudly thought of themselves as the most powerful nation on Earth, having recently produced the atomic bomb, and achievement so stupendous, it would take Russia 4 years to catch up, and only with the help of traitors to Democracy. They had built a jet aircraft that had exceeded the speed of sound in flight. They had built jet bombers with intercontinental range that could carry weapons of enormous destruction. The post war era, and the future seemed bright. Now imagine what it was like for those same leaders, all of whom had witnessed the panic of Orson Wells' radio broadcast, "The War of the Worlds", in 1938. Thousands of Americans panicked at a realistically presented invasion of Earth by beings from another planet. Imagine their horror as they actually viewed the dead bodies of these frightening looking little creatures with enormous eyes, reptilian skin and claw like fingers. Imagine their shock as they attempted to determine how these strange "saucers" were powered and could discover no part even remotely similar to components they were familiar with: no cylinders or pistons, no vacuum tubes or turbines or hydraulic actuators. It is only when you fully understand the overwhelming helplessness the government was faced with in the late 40's that you can comprehend their perceived need for a total, thorough and sweeping cover up, to include the use of "deadly force".

The cover-up was so successful that as late as 1985 a senior scientist with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, Dr. Al Hibbs, would look at a video tape of an enormous flying saucer and state the record, "I'm not going to assign anything to that (UFO) phenomena without a lot more data". Dr. Hibbs was looking at the naked emperor and saying, "He certainly looks naked, but that doesn't prove he's naked."

In July of 1952, a panicked government watched helplessly as squadron of "flying saucers" flew over Washington, D.C., and buzzed the White House, the Capitol Building, and the Pentagon. It took all the imagination and intimidation the government could muster to force that incident out of the memory of the public.

Thousands of sightings occurred during the Korean war and several more sauces were retrieved by the Air Force. Some were stored at Wright- Patterson Air Force Base, some were stored at Air Force bases near the location of the crash sight.

One saucer was so enormous and the logistic problems in transportation so enormous that it was buried at the crash sight and remains there today. The stories are legendary on transporting crashed saucers over long distances, moving only at night, purchasing complete farms, slashing through forests, blocking major highways, sometimes driving 2 and 3 lo-boys in tandem with and extraterrestrial load a hundred feet in diameter.

On April 30, 1964, the first communication between these aliens and the U.S. Government took place at Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico. 3 saucers landed at a prearranged area and a meeting was held between the aliens and intelligence officers of the U.S. Government.

During the period of 1969-1971, MJ-12 representing the U.S. Government made a deal with these creatures, called EBE's (Extraterrestrial Biological Entities, named by Detlev Bronk, original MJ-12 member and 6th President of Johns Hopkins University). The "deal" was that in exchange for "technology" that they would provide to us, we agreed to "ignore" the abductions that were going on and suppress information on the cattle mutilations. The EBE's assured MJ-12 that the abductions (usually lasting about 2 hours) were merely the ongoing monitoring of developing civilizations.

In fact, the purposes for the abductions turned out to be:

(1) The insertion of a 3mm spherical device through the nasal cavity of the abductee into the brain. the device is used for the biological monitoring, tracking, and control of the abductee.

(2) Implementation of Posthypnotic Suggestion to carry out a specific activity during a specific time period, the actuation of which will occur within the next 2 to 5 years.

(3) Termination of some people so that they could function as living sources for biological material and substances.

(4) Termination of individuals who represent a threat to the continuation of their activity.

(5) Effect genetic engineering experiments.

(6) Impregnation of human females and early termination of pregnancies to secure the crossbreed infant.

The U.S. Government was not initially aware of the far reaching consequences of their "deal". They were led to believe that the abductions were essentially benign and since they figured the abductions would probably go on anyway whether they agreed or not, they merely insisted that a current list of abductees be submitted, on a periodic basis, to MJ-12 and the National Security Council. Does this sound incredible? An actual list of abductees sent to the National Security Council? Read on, because I have news for you.

The EBE's have a genetic disorder in that their digestive system is atrophied and not functional. Some speculate that they were involved in some type of accident or nuclear war, or possibly on the back side of and evolutionary genetic curve. In order to sustain themselves they use an enzyme or hormonal secretion obtained from the tissue that they extract from humans and animals.

The secretions obtained are then mixed with hydrogen peroxide and applied on the skin by spreading or dipping parts of their bodies in the solution. The body absorbs the solution, then excretes the waste back through the skin. The cattle mutilations that were prevalent throughout the period from 1973 to 1983 and publicly noted through newspaper and magazine stories and included a documentary produced by Linda Howe for the Denver CBS affiliate KMGH-TV, were for the collection of these tissues by the aliens. The mutilations included genitals taken, rectums cored out to the colon, eyes, tongue, and throat all surgically removed with extreme precision. In some cases the incisions were made by cutting between the cells, a process we are not yet capable of performing in the field. In many of the mutilations there was no blood found at all in the carcass, yet there was no vascular collapse of the internal organs. This has been also noted in the human mutilations, one of the first of which was Sgt. Jonathan P. Louette at the White Sands Missile Test Range in 1956, who was found three days after an Air Force Major had witnessed his abduction by a "disk shaped" object at 0300 while on a search for missile debris downrange. His genitals had been removed, rectum cored out in a surgically precise "plug" up to the colon, eyes removed and all blood removed with, again, no vascular collapse. From some of the evidence it is apparent that this surgery is accomplished, in most cases, while the victim, animal or human, is still alive.

The various parts of the body are taken to various underground laboratories, one of which is known to be near the small New Mexico town of Dulce. This jointly occupied (CIA-Alien) facility has

been described as enormous, with huge tiled walls that "go on forever". Witnesses have reported huge vats filled with amber liquid with parts of human bodies being stirred inside.

After the initial agreement, Groom Lake, one of this nations most secret test centers, was closed for a period of about a year, sometime between about 1972 and 1974, and a huge underground facility was constructed for and with the help of the EBE's. The "bargained for" technology was set in place but could only be operated by the EBE's themselves. Needless to say, the advanced technology could not be used against the EBE's themselves, even if needed.

During the period between 1979 and 1983 it became increasingly obvious to MJ-12 that things were not going as planned. It became known that many more people (in the thousands) were being abducted than were listed on the official abduction lists. In addition it became obvious that some, not all, but some of the nation's missing children had been used for secretions and other parts required by the aliens.

In 1979 there was an altercation of sorts at the Dulce laboratory. A special armed forces unit was called in to try and free a number of our people trapped in the facility, who had become aware of what was really going on. According to one source, 66 of the soldiers were killed and our people were not freed.

By 1984, MJ-12 must have been in stark terror at the mistake they had made in dealing with the EBE's. They had subtly promoted "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" and "E.T." to get the public used to "odd looking" aliens that were compassionate, benevolent and very much our "space brothers". MJ-12 "sold" the EBE's to the public, and were now faced with the fact that quite the opposite was true. In addition, a plan was formulated in 1968 to make the public aware of the existence of aliens on earth over the next 20 years to be culminated with several documentaries to be released during 1985-1987 period of time. These documentaries would explain the history and intentions of the EBE's. The discovery of the "Grand Deception" put the entire plans, hopes and dreams of MJ-12 into utter confusion and panic.

Meeting at the "Country Club", a remote lodge with private golf course, comfortable sleeping and working quarters, and its own private airstrip built by and exclusively for the member of MJ-12, it was a factional fight of what to do now. Part of MJ-12 wanted to confess the whole scheme and shambles it had become to the public, beg their forgiveness and ask for their support. The other part (and majority) of MJ-12 argued that there was no way they could do that, that the situation was untenable and there was no use in exciting the public with the "horrible truth" and that the best plan was to continue the development of a weapon that could be used against the EBE's under the guise of "SDI", the Strategic Defense Initiative, which had nothing whatsoever to do with a defense for inbound Russian nuclear missiles. As these words are being written, Dr. Edward Teller, "father" of the H-Bomb is personally in the test tunnels of the Nevada Test Site, driving his workers and associates in the words of one, "like a man possessed". And well he should, for Dr. Teller is a member of MJ-12 along with Dr. Kissenger, Admiral Bobby Inman, and possibly Admiral Poindexter, to name a few of the current members of MJ-12.

Before the "Grand Deception" was discovered and according to a meticulous plan of metered release of information to the public, several documentaries and video tapes were made. William Moore, a Burbank, California, based UFO researcher who wrote "The Roswell Incident", a book published in 1980 that detailed the crash, recovery and subsequent cover-up of a UFO with 4 alien bodies, has a video tape of 2 newsmen interviewing a military officer associated with MJ-12. This military officer answers questions relating to the history of MJ-12 and the cover-up, the recovery of a number of flying saucers and the existence of a live alien (one of 3 living aliens

captured and designated, or named, EBE-1, EBE-2, and EBE-3, being held in a facility designated as YY-II at Los Alamos, New Mexico. The only other facility of this type, which is electromagnetically secure, is at Edwards Air Force Base in Mojave, California). The officer names as previously mentioned plus a few others: Harold Brown, Richard Helms, Gen. Vernon Walters, JPL's Dr. Lew Allen and Dr. Theodore von Karman, to name a few of the current and past members of MJ-12.

The officer also relates the fact that the EBE's claim to have created Christ. The EBE's have a type of recording device that has recorded all of Earth's history and can display it in the form of a hologram. This hologram can be filmed but because of the way holograms work does not come out very clear on movie film or video tape. The crucifixion of Christ on the Mount of Olives has allegedly been put on film to show the public. The EBE's claim to have created Christ, which, in view of the "Grand Deception", could be an effort to disrupt traditional values for undetermined reasons.

Another video tape allegedly in existence is an interview with an EBE. Since EBE's communicate telepathically, and Air Force Colonel serves as an interpreter. Just before the recent stock market correction in October of 1987, several newsmen, including Bill Moore, had been invited to Washington, D.C., to personally film the EBE in a similar type interview, and distribute the film to the public. Apparently, because of the correction in the market, it was felt the timing was not propitious. In any case, it certainly seems like an odd method to inform the public of extraterrestrials, but it would be in keeping with the actions of a panicked organization who at this point in time doesn't know which way to turn.

Moore is also in possession of more Aquarius documents, a few pages of which leaked out several years ago and detailed the supersecret NSA project which had been denied by them until just recently. In a letter to Senator John Glenn, NSA's Director of Policy, Julia B. Wetzel, wrote, "Apparently there is or was an Air Force project with that name (Aquarius) which dealt with UFO's. Coincidently, there is also an NSA project by that name." NSA's project Aquarius deals specifically with the "communications wit the aliens" (the EBE's). Within the Aquarius program was project "Snowbird", a project to test-fly a recovered alien aircraft at Groom Lake, Nevada. This project continues today at that location. In the words of an individual who works at Groom Lake, "Our people are much better at taking things apart than they are at putting them back together."

Moore, who claims he has a contact with MJ-12, feels that they have been stringing him along, slipping him documents and providing him leads, promising to go public with some of the information on extraterrestrials by the end of 1987.

Certain of Moore's statements lead one to believe that Moore himself is a government agent working for MJ-12, not to be strung along, but string along ever hopeful UFOlogists that the truth is just around the corner. Consider:

1. Moore states emphatically that he is not a government agent, although when Lee Graham (a Southern California based UFOlogist) was investigated by DIS (Defense Investigative Service) for possession of classified documents received from Moore, Moore himself was not.

2. Moore states emphatically that the cattle mutilations of 1973-1983 were a hoax by Linda Howe (producer of "A Strange Harvest") to create publicity for herself. He cites the book "Mute Evidence" as the bottom line of the hoax. "Mute Evidence" was a government sponsored book to explain the mutilations in conventional terms.

3. Moore states that the U.S.A.F. Academy physics book, "Introductory Space Science", vol. II chapter 13, entitled "Unidentified Flying

Objects", which describes four of the most commonly seen aliens (one of which is the EBE) was written by Lt. Col. Edward R. Therkelson and Major Donald B. Carpenter, Air Force personnel who did not know what they were talking about and were merely siting "crackpot" references. He, Moore, states that the book was withdrawn to excise the chapter.

If the government felt they were being forced to acknowledge the existence of aliens on Earth because of the overwhelming evidence such as the October and November sightings in Wytheville, Va., and recently released books such as "Night Siege" (Hynek, J. Allen;Imbrogno, Phillip J.;Pratt, Bob:Night Siege, Ballantine Books, Random House, New York), and taking into consideration the "grand deception" and obviously hostile intentions of the EBE's, it might be expedient for MJ-12 to admit the EBE's but conceal the information on the mutilations and abductions. If MJ-12 and Moore were in some kind of agreement then it would be beneficial to Moore to tow the party line. For example, MJ-12 would say..."here are some more genuine documents...but remember...no talking about the mutilations or abductions". This would be beneficial to Moore as it would supply the evidence to support his theory that E.T.'s exist but deny the truths about the E.T.'s. However, if Moore was indeed working for MJ-12, he would follow the party line anyway...admitting the E.T.'s but pooh poohing the mutilations and abductions. If working alone, Moore might not even be aware of the "grand deception".

Time will tell. It is possible that Moore will go ahead and release the video interview with the military officer around the first of the year, as he has promised. From MJ-12's point of view, the public would be exposed to the information without really having to believe it because Moore is essentially not as credible a source as, say, the President of the United States. After a few months of digestion and discussion, a more credible source could emerge with a statement that yes in fact the interview was essentially factual. This scenario would cushion somewhat the blow to the public. If, however, Moore does not release the tape by, say, February 1 of 1988, but comes instead with a story similar to: "MJ-12 has informed me that they are definitely planning a release of all information by October of 88. I have seen the plan and have seen the guarantee that this will happen, so I have decided to withhold the release of my video tape at this time as it may cause some problems with MJ-12's plans." This would in effect buy more time for MJ-12 and time is what they desperately need.

Now you ask, "Why haven't I heard about any of this?" Who do you think you would hear it from? Dan Rather? Tom Brokaw? Sam Donaldson? Wrong. These people just read the news, they don't find it. They have ladies who call and interview witnesses and verify statements on stories coming over the wire (either AP or UPI). It's not like Dan Rather would go down to Wytheville, Virginia, and dig into why there were 4 THOUSAND reported sightings in October and November of 1987. Better that Tom Brokaw or someone else should risk their credibility on this type of story. Tom Brokaw? Tom wants Sam Donaldson to risk his credibility. No one, but no one, is going to risk their neck on such outlandish ideas, regardless of how many people report sightings of 900 foot objects running them off the road. In the case of the Wytheville sightings, dozens of vans with NASA lettered on the side failed to interest newsmen. And those that asked questions were informed that NASA was doing a weather survey.

Well then, you ask, what about our scientists? What about Carl Sagan? Isaac Asimov? Arthur C. Clarke? Wouldn't they have known? If Carl Sagan knows then he is committing a great fraud through the solicitation of memberships in the Planetary Society, "to search for extraterrestrial intelligence". Another charade into which the U.S. Government dumps million of dollar every year is the radiotelescope in Arecibo, Puerto Rico, operated by Cornell University with - guess

who? - Carl Sagan. Cornell is ostensibly searching for signals from Outer Space, a sign maybe, that somebody is out there. It is hard to believe that relatively intelligent astronomers like Sagan could be so ignorant.

What about Isaac Asimov? Surely the most prolific science fiction writer of all time would have guessed by now that there must be an enormous cover-up? Maybe, but if he knows he's not saying. Perhaps he's afraid that Foundation and Empire will turn out to be inaccurate.

What about Arthur C. Clarke? Surely the most technically accurate of Science Fiction writers with very close ties to NASA would have at least a hint of what's really going on. Again, if so he isn't talking. In a recent Science Fiction survey, Clarke estimates that contact with extraterrestrial intelligent life would not occur before the 21st Century.

If the government won't tell us the truth and the major networks won't even give it serious consideration, then what is the big picture, anyway? Are the EBE's, having done a hundred thousand or more abductions (possibly millions worldwide), built an untold number of secret underground bases (Groom Lake, Nevada; Sunspot, Datil, Roswell, and Pie Town, New Mexico, just to name a few) getting ready to return to wherever they came from? Or, form the obvious preparations are we to assume that they are getting ready for a big move? Or is the more sinister and most probable situation that the invasion is essentially complete and it is all over but the screaming?

A well planned invasion of Earth for it's resources and benefits would not begin with mass landings of ray-gun equipped aliens. A properly planned and executed invasion by a civilization thousands and probably hundreds of thousands of years in advance of us would most likely be complete before even a handful of people, say 12?, realized what was happening. No fuss, no muss. The best advice I can give you is this: Next time you see a flying saucer and are awed by its obvious display of technology and gorgeous lights of pure color - RUN LIKE HELL!

June 3, 1988
Las Vegas, NV

In 1983 when the Grand Deception was discovered MJ-12 (which may now be designated 'PI-40') started work on a weapon or some kind of device to contain the EBE's which had by now totally infested our society. This program was funded through SDI which, coincidentally, was initiated at approximately the same date. A frantic effort has been made over the past 4 years by all participants. This program ended in failure in December of 1987. A new program has been conceived but will take about 2 years to develop. In the meantime, it is absolutely essential to MJ-12 (PI-40), that no one, including the Senate, the Congress or the citizens of the United States of America (or anyone else for that matter) become aware of the real circumstances surrounding the UFO cover-up and total disaster it has become.

Moore never did release the video tapes but claims he is negociating with a major network to do so...'soon'.

OK, rate your mind on this one kids- we'll leave the last word to John Keel:

'The US government is being taken over by the space people!' The is rumour spread throughout the country in 1967, an updated version of the old devil theory. Actually it got its start on 1949 when James V Forrestal, the brilliant scretary of defence in the Truman cabinet, went bananas and reced through the corridors of the Pentagon screaming 'We're being invaded and we can't stop them!' He was convinced that his phones were being tapped and some enormous conspiracy was under way. Soon after he was placed in a hospital he leaped out of a window to his death.'
from Vistors From Space (1975)



Letters are accepted by UFO BRIGANTIA on any aspect of ufology or the Journal's contents. When writers are replying to or commenting on an article or letter in a previous issue it must be understood that their reply will be shown to the author of the original article who will be invited to reply in the same issue. Replies are welcomed and encouraged but please be concise, the '50% rule', may be applied at the editors discretion.

Jenny Randles

Dear Andy,

I was most interested by the discussion of abduction cases in the May/June issue of BRIGANTIA. There is no doubt that this is the 'in' subject and I think the way it is being debated says a good deal about the gulf between UK and US ufology.

That fact is further highlighted by the interesting response to my book 'Abduction'.

I make no bones about the fact that I decided to write it in March 1987 precisely because I felt some counter-balance was needed to the US obsession, then in its infancy. I know some will accuse me (indeed one Yorkshire magazine already has!) of jumping on the bandwagon. But I only write what I write, when I write it, if I feel it serves a purpose. My visit to the MUFON conference last June (when I was already working on the book) only further demonstrated that I was right in my estimate.

The book has been extremely controversial. It has provoked legal letters by the cartload and for two months had an injunction threat against it ever coming out (this hasn't materialised but the threat was not lifted). These problems were due to certain individuals who seem to believe that nobody else has the right to comment on material they themselves put into the public domain. That, of course, CANNOT be true. The only way we will ever understand this abduction phenomenon is by being objective and discussing the evidence in an open fashion. It is very disappointing that some people at the focus of the abduction scene (and they know who they are) wish to restrict proper evaluation.

You might think that such controversy would translate into sales. The experience of 'Spy Catcher' and the Robert Maxwell biographies are good cases in point (Maxwell even sued the bookshops that sold the books he did not like!). However, that is true in a subject where there is a lot of public attention. WE might have tried to use the injunction or lawsuit threats as a lever to gain promotion, but I would never have sanctioned that even had Hale's wanted to. Thankfully they are too responsible a publisher to do so.

That said the book has ambled along, as expected, clocking up around four thousand sales. There was no spectacular publicity (unlike 'Above Top Secret') - although I did around 30 radio interviews and was on Granada, Central and Scottish TV. Indeed, the response was much calmer than might have been expected; probably because I was not making any extreme claims. In the UFO field you only attract lots of publicity, hype and money if you are willing to sell your soul to the myth of crashed UFO's, pickled green men and extraterrestrial rape.

Of course, there was the infamous Daily Star series. They actually staggered Hale's with their level of interest. I had no say in the matter. The money they offered covered Hale's printing costs and they wouldn't have turned it down if I had begged them. But it was nothing but trouble from my perspective.

The presentation (over three days in early March) helped us none. It was nearly two months before the book came out - and even when it did appear there were major foul ups. A mysterious computer glitch changed the publication date so that we promoted the book in April and all bookstore computers had an entirely fictitious date in June for deliveries! Then the warehouse 'lost' hundreds of copies in transit. In the end both Robert Hale and I gave up trying to sort out the mess, which nobody has yet explained. The hovering sword of the injunction threat, mindful of the Maxwell saga (where bookshops had to send copies back and compensate for any sold) also made some smaller stores wary of risk taking.

You can get pretty paranoid very quickly when all this happens (the MOD were behind it, etc etc). You can also get very jealous of the million dollars here and enormous sales there of certain other books, when all you are getting is threatening letters and bills. The truth is that serious ufology just does not sell well..Or maybe the aliens were getting their own back!

The Star series was very illustrative of how the media MUST deal with this problem. They have an absolute phobia about it. We tried to persuade the serious press (eg the Express, Mail, Guardian etc) to take serial rights, or even just review the book, on the grounds that it was an interesting problem of the human mind. You should have heard some of the replies! Yet the same sources all devoted considerable space to 'Communion' or 'Above Top Secret'. It is puzzling. The Guardian were keen. But then they would not say why they opted out in the end. The Star (and one other similar tablod) were the only ones chomping at the bit, and with the injunction application from a certain British abductee costing Hales money, they had no real option but to accept.

The paper interviewed me soone after agreeing the deal. I spent 20 minutes discussing the complexities of abductions and could audibly hear the reporter losing interest. He then fobbed me off with *"I don't think we will have space for theories"* and I never heard from them again. They did devote SIX full pages to the subject - so much for the lack of space! But all they did was take half a dozen of the British cases, rewrite them in space alien terms and add some absurd illustrations of the 'kidnap'. This utterly misrepresented the book. I am sure not even the witnesses would have recognised their cases from the way the Star handled them. Certainly no reader would have a clue that the book was a balanced assessment of the subject, rather than sensationalised junk.

The Star never told me which cases it was using or when their series was appearing. The first I knew was when hostile witnesses started calling up very angry at what the Star had done. Of course, they assumed the book was in the same style. The Star even told some of them when they wrote to complain ('write to the publisher or the author - it's not our fault').

Then Harry Harris set me up on a Piccadilly Radio programme that week. He had arranged with the presenter, who lead me into all kinds of avenues about how I abuse witnesses, tell lies and so on. Then, suddenly, without telling me, I am asked to put on the earphones and there is Harry ranting on about how I have used 'his' cases and distorted them in the Star. The whole show was a disgrace and cost me, personally, very dearly in many ways. Harry Harris recorded it and sent tapes to all and sundry - including one to the USA, which I will never be able to discuss further.

I am baffled as to why this book has caused Robert Hale and myself so much trouble. Certainly it was not worth it. There is no question Hale's will not publish another book on the theme after this debacle. I may well never write on UFO's again as a direct consequence of these problems.

On the one hand this shows how abductions are an intensely emotive subject. A very dangerous one for mere ufologists to tinker with. We are dealing with deep matters that strike at the heart of human beings. I have to question whether we even have the right to report on and analyse these intensly personal experiences. Unlike

someone elses dreams, where analysis may be acceptable, the abduction is not so open to interpretation. It is like commenting on a persons religious beliefs.

I have been criticised by at least two of the witnesses in the book (one British and one American) for making money out of folk like them (and the making money aspect is farcical). But I do wonder if I have not stumbled over a question of ethics that few of us have considered.

What do we do about abductions? In his editorial, Andy Roberts seems to suggest that it is wrong to alert witnesses to possible clues about what constitutes an abduction and invite them to come forward. But is it?

There are two ways of looking at it. Out there are hundreds of people who MIGHT have had such experiences. They either want to know or they don't. At present in Britain they only see the truth according to the Sunday Sport (ie that abductions lead to one giving birth to fish headed alien babies). Is it our responsibility to alter that situation? Or should we leave them to it?

As researchers we KNOW something is going on. We do not understand what that is, but we can at least recognise that there is a problem. Philip Klass and one highly publicised author/abductee insist that UFO researchers should not deal with witnesses. We are wrecking their lives, and they should instead go to their nearest psychiatrist. In Britain all that would do is bring them heartache and cause them months or years of analysis and social stigma. Believe me, I know, I've been there.

We are not mental health experts. But surely we must try to help these victims come to terms with their encounters and steer them in the right direction. the direction THEY want to head in. My experience is very definitely that abductees are highly unlilkely to come out with their stories even when invited to do so. It is something few want to talk about in public. Only two abductees mentioned in my book were willing to go on radio and talk about their experiences. Most are terrified of publicity.

I am not at all sure what the right response of the UFO investigator should be. But I seriously doubt that it ought to be ignoring our responsibility. There are VERY few people who understand the UFO subject and the abduction to any level of sophistication. In Britain there may only be a few dozen of us. On the other hand it could be that there are thousands of British abductees. Is it right that we sell these folk down the river to psychiatrists who can't even accept lights in the sky and would run a mile from a CE4?

This is a debate we MUST have. In the USA it is too late. They have chosen their course. Here we are only just beginning. IUN have handled a couple of abductions in the past year, MUFORA have had three. In only one of these cases has hypnosis been used, and I think Andy's fears about its abuse in Britain are exaggerated. If only because there are not the specialists giving freely of their time and the Code of Practice very specifically precludes any non medically qualified person conducting hypnosis on a witness - so Budd Hopkins, for instance, simply could not do this here and be within the BUFORA guidelines.

I suspect that the abduction is a problem on a scale that we are only just beginning to comprehend. I cannot see how it is possible for the serious UFO community to run and hide under the bed whilst the tabloids or the cults and the ETH besotted or the debunkers tear the cases (and the witnesses) to shreds.

As for 'Abduction'. Well every US publisher in existence has turned it down. That is no new experience for me. Most of my books never get published outside Britain. But with the abduction subject being so hot in the USA their logic is curious. Typical of the reasons given are that it just rehashes old cases. In fact more than half the cases have NEVER been published in a book before. (Indeed, if BRIGANTIA's reviewer will check his statement here, the cases he says are 'not new' - viz the Godfrey, Aveley CE 4's etc - are given tiny amounts of space compared with cases

that have never been reported before - including half a dozen British ones I followed up just for the book.)

What these American publishers mean is that there are no new American cases (well there is one on fact). Such is American parochialism on abductions that, as Regina Cullen showed in her perceptive commentary on Klass's polemic, if it isn't American then it isn't important.

That is very sad and is a major explanation as to why US ufology is currently in a bit of a mess. They must wake up and realise that to understand abductions you have to look at them from a global perspective.

One major US publisher apologised for not taking the book after many months of thought by saying, *'Unfortunately our sales team report that to sell a book on this subject in the USA you either have to argue that UFO's are from outer space or they are lies and delusions. Readers do not want a balanced appraisal. Sorry'.*

It is us who should feel sorry for the Americans, if it is fair comment. At least, a UK paperback will appear, next year, from an upmarket and responsible publishing outfit who were very keen to take it. All is not lost and a few more might begin to see the real dilemma we face.
Jenny

Editors note;
I think Jenny has made the point I was making in last issues editorial in another way. America has as usual gone over the top and we should leave them to it. As Jenny says abductions are just coming to the fore here and we should get the investigation of them in hand. We have the opportunity and the 'scientific' establishment will heap ridicule on us in future if we don't. I would propose a 'working party' on abductions comprised of British ufologists of all persuasions and an annual seminar/conference. Anyone interested?

Regina Cullen

To the Editor,

Your usual mess, errors of spelling and punctuation, etc., can be forgiven, regrettable though it is... but mangled, rearranged sentences, some drained of all colour and with bits added onto the previous sentence or with whole bits missing (leaving at least one, about 'giving the benefit of the doubt', referring back to something not even there anymore) can not. Giving you the benefit of the doubt, as you had said you were not going to change anything, I conclude you do for editorship what the Boston Strangler did for door to door salesmen. I'm not happy. You owe me an apology. And where was my cartoon credit? And so on..and jumping up and down...and strangled cries. Do you deserve freebie articles?
Most Sincerely,
Regina

Editors note: Regina Cullen has drawn my attention to various gross errors which I made when typing up her article 'Abductions; Phil Klass plays a dangerous game' (Mar-April 1988 issue). These errors were unforgivable on my part and I apologise unreservedly. If readers would kindly refer back to the last paragraph of Regina's article they should note that the benefit of the doubt was given over Klass's 'dishonesty'. I'm sorry Regina! I hope that you will continue to write for BRIGANTIA in the future.
Andy Roberts

Hilary Evans

Dear Andy,

It was interesting to read Regina Cullen's review of Klass's Abductions, because these days we do not often get the opportunity to get an insight into the point of view of those whose beliefs have made Whitley Streiber a millionaire and enabled J Z Knight, Ramtha's 'channel', to raise her standard of living to the gold-plated-bathroom-fittings income bracket.

However, there is more to the subtitle of Klass's book - 'a dangerous game' - than a neat phrase. The danger is a real one. In 1986, you will recall, an English lady killed her grandchildren to save them from being abducted by aliens. I have spent many hours talking with Klass, and I know that he is sincerely concerned that Hopkins, Jacobs and Strieber are

doing real harm by the way they are treating their 'abduction' victims.

Cullen is right, of course, to remind your readers that I am not a 'psychological professional'. My views carry no more weight than hers or anyone else's. Since there is no sure evidence one way or the other whether abductions actually occur, it is for each of us to make up our minds on a basis of probability. If Cullen finds it easier to believe that Kathie Davis was abducted by aliens than that she is suffering from a psychological disturbance, she has every right to do so. But she must respect the right of those who think otherwise to express their views, especially when they are written with the wisdom and experience that someone like Klass brings to the subject.

I hope your readers will not blindly accept Cullen's views, but will give themselves the opportunity of judging both sides of the question by reading Klass's book. Whether or not you ultimately agree with him, it is a timely, important and valuable contribution to the abduction debate, containing much revealing information as well as pertinent insights. Speaking personally - simply as a concerned human being, with no pretensions to being a 'psychological professional' - I believe that Klass is right: but you must judge for yourselves. I urge all your readers to read this thought-provoking book.
Hilary.

Regina Cullen

To the Editor,

I do hate having to waste my time dealing with sour grapes, but in this case it is rather grimly amusing. The 'wisdom' and 'experience' and 'timely importance' of Klass will be laughed at by most, excepting those who aren't blinded by their prejudices. Evans seems to give his own away in his unjustified implication that I don't respect the right of others to express their views and in his smug and sarcastic remarks about "... those whose beliefs have made W. Strieber...", etc. In fact I said the only useful information in the Klass book was that WS has admitted to falsehood in the past. So let's say for the record I take WS with a handful of salt, and as for 'channeling', since Evans raises this irrelevancy, I also say I find it unacceptable. The English lady and her grandchildren is another irrelevancy... a fluke can turn up anywhere for any reason. Would he have the entire subject censored on the possibility? And as for all the 'concern'... it is a form of hypocrisy for which I feel particular contempt because if the abductees felt they were anything other than helped we would be hearing of it. It is arrogance on the part of the 'concerned' to say they know better.
Regina Cullen

Malcolm Robinson

Dear Andy,

I take this opportunity in writing to the IUN magazine on an issue which I feel is quite relevant in regards to the public accepting Ufology as a serious subject. I would draw the readers attention to the issue I shall raise in this letter, and it deals with the British newspaper, 'The Sunday Sport'.

As I mentioned in our group's newsletter last month, (SPI Newsletter), Fleet Street tends to find great pleasure in attatching a sense of journalistic fervour in regards to stories of the paranormal, none more so than the Sunday Sport, which I regard as just a fish & chip paper. This paper's UFO related stories border on the insanity, and I'm quite sure that most of us British ufologists are well aware of these silly stories. One must have noticed that no other Sunday paper tends to feature the same stories which the Sunday Sport does, that in itself speaks volumes. Anyway, I should not need to reiterate on the UFO contentof the Sunday Sport, we should know it by now.

My point in the writing of this letter is this. I would ask all readers of UFO BRIGANTIA, particularly their investigators, to use caution if confronted by any Sunday Sport journalist. In fact, I would go so far as to say, please do not even talk to

the Sunday Sport. My reasoning behind this request is this.

We as ufologists are trying to obtain as much credence and respect towards the UFO enigma, and the Sunday Sport, with its insane ramblings on, is certainly not helping our cause. As ufologists, we want to impress upon the general public that in regards to UFO's, there is most certainly, 'something going on'. We are not saying or implying that it is extraterrestrial in nature, a possibility yes, but a remote one. The answer may turn out to have more wider implications. Or again the answer could be so insignificant that it may be a wonder that we ever applied ourselves to it in the first place.

Even so, research must go on, answers must be sought, for man never learned anything by resting on his laurels. But the Sunday Sport with all its ludicrous UFO items, is bringing ufology down to a level which is painfully sad to see. And we as ufologists certainly do not want this.

So readers, please consider the posotion of ufology. Do we want to see ufology lose its status? Or do we want to show the public that there is something in this, (an easy question answered).

I have informed our members of the Strange Phenomena Investigation Team not to talk to the Sunday Sport. If at all then it would only be on the condition of pointing out to them that a UFO related item which they have written was incorrect, and to point out to them what indeed did happen. I ask that for ufology's sake the readers of Brigantia and all serious investigators, do likewise. For if we assist the Sunday Sport in helping them put out these silly stories then we are not doing ourselves any favours.

All the Sunday Sport is good for is holding the good old British fish supper and nothing more.

Malcolm Robinson

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