

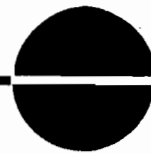


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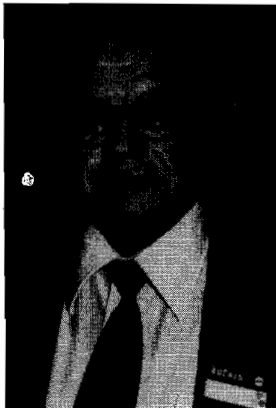
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Paul Norman was born and educated in the USA and has been interested in UFOs since his own sighting over 30 years ago in Tennessee.

In 1963 he migrated to Melbourne, Australia, where he continued his researches with the Victorian UFO Research Society (VUFORS), as that organisation's Vice-President and Investigations Officer. In 1979 he joined MUFON as State Director for Victoria. He is also an Associate Member of CUFOS and a member of this Association. He has contributed many articles to various publications and now writes a column entitled "On The UFO Trail" for the VUFORS publication "AUSTRALIAN UFO BULLETIN".



He was a guest speaker at BUFORA's Congress at High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire in August, 1983.

This is a slightly edited version of the paper given by Mr Norman at the MUFON Conference held in San Antonio, USA in July, 1984. In the paper Mr Norman looks at the UFO scene in Australia over the last 60 years.

ABSTRACT

There is a wind of chance blowing in Australia regarding the recognition of the UFO problem. Thirty years ago a Gallup Poll revealed that only 15 per cent of the population considered the reality of unidentified flying objects. That percentage has now gone up to 57 per cent of the general public. It is my intention to show in this paper the reasons which are influencing this change of attitude with regard to this world wide enigma.

INTRODUCTION

Australia, the land of contrast has an amazingly similar record of mysterious flying objects as those reported from all over the world. Because Australian ufologists have remained on the alert, these reports have been investigated and reported in the face of many difficulties. But now those problems have eased due to better co-operation from Australian officials and a greater awareness of the public in general. I will present Australian examples from physical trace landing cases to UFOs with entities aboard, whose origins and purposes apparently remain unknown, but must be considered while studying the COUNTDOWN TO REALITY.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Official Australian investigation of unusual aerial phenomena was in progress even before the "foo fighter" era of world war two. At least as far back as 1920 when the SS AMELIA J disappeared during a time when unexplained lights were being sighted around the entrance to Bass Strait, a search aircraft was sent out to investigate the lights and disappeared also. It never returned.

In 1930, a squadron-leader was sent by the Royal Australian Air Force, to Warrnambool, Victoria, a town west of Cape Otway on the north shore of the Strait, where people had reported "aircraft" flying over the coast. The official investigator found that the objects were not aircraft belonging to Australia or any other power. They could not be identified even as aircraft. In short they were unknown flying objects. After his retirement, this RAAF officer became an esteemed member of the Victorian UFO Research Society (VUFORS). He was Sir George Jones, who became Air Marshall of the Australian Air Force during world war two.

Please note: This documented official investigation of unidentified flying objects took place on the shores of Bass Strait, which has become the outstanding "flap area" of Australia, where strange sights in the sky and over its waters reach back for two centuries and beyond. During September and October, 1978, UFO activity reached an all time peak, culminating in the disappearance of Australian pilot Frederick Valentich. He had been reporting the approach and description of an unknown flying object as long as his radio transmissions could be heard. This encounter has become the greatest mystery in Australian aviation history.

THE MISS HOBART MYSTERY

Another earlier example took place on October, 19th, 1935. The MISS HOBART, a new four-engine plane took off from Lonceston, Tasmania for Melbourne at 9 am. The day was perfect for flying. The sky was clear and visibility was over 30 miles. On board was Captain Gilbert Jenkins and co-pilot V.C. Holyman, with 10 passengers. At 10.20 am, the MISS HOBART was approaching the Victorian coast when her last message was received "all is well." At 10.51 am, the radio operator at Melbourne called the plane. There was no answer. He called again at 10.56. There was still no answer and no Mayday distress call had been heard. The mystery deepened when a surveyor, Mr.H. Campbell and his crew, who were working 18 miles from where the captain reported his last position, said that he heard the engines of an airplane suddenly cease. He remarked to his fellow workers that it was strange for such a thing to happen. There was no crash - just silence. They thought no more about it until after the aircraft was reported missing.

The spot where the survey crew was working was directly on the flight path the MISS HOBART would have followed if it had completed its flight. The time was 10 minutes after the last radio contact. On the night of October 19th, residents 15 miles from where the airplane vanished, reported strange

lights in the sky. The captain who flew the MISS HOBART on the previous flight reported that there were no flares aboard. Three days later, the cargo ship KOOLINGA, bound for Melbourne, sighted lights not far from where the plane last reported its position. The aircraft's four engines were the 200 HP Gypsy V1 type. In the event of failure, two engines could have kept the MISS HOBART airborne. This is just one more incident where an aircraft was reported missing during a period of UFO activity over Bass Strait.

CIGAR SHAPED OBJECT OVER MELBOURNE

Within a seven day period in June, 1954, an object described as cylinder or cigar shaped was reported over Melbourne. One witness said that her wristwatch stopped at 6.23 pm and the batteries in her small flashlight went dead while the object was nearby. At close range a canopy with a window on top could be seen as well as a window at each end of the silver coloured cylinder. Witnesses in the suburb of Maldon said that "dark shapes" could be seen within the craft. A policeman reported that the object hovered near the ground close to where he was standing, and he could see shadows of people inside before it sped away.

A radio announcer, who sighted the object from another suburb of Melbourne, said he was leaving the home of some friends when he heard a sound like the dial tone of a telephone. When the object reached its lowest point, shapes like human forms could be seen. He said that "his friends were too amazed to talk for several seconds. We were so impressed that each of us wrote down our individual impressions and they tallied almost exactly." An official of the Australian Broadcasting Commission, who was in the same group said: "If we had seen the same shapes in an aircraft, he would have said they were people."

1954 NAVY RADAR CASE

The Melbourne morning newspaper "The Sun" displayed the following front page headlines on December 16th, 1954: NAVY FINDS SAUCERS ON OUR RADAR. This encounter was an outstanding radar/visual case. The incident had actually occurred in September, 1954. As a navy fighter was flying to the naval base at Nauru, just after dark, two disc-shaped objects took up positions, one on each side of the aircraft. The pilot requested a radar check which was done. Three blips showed up on the radar screen. Nauru directed the pilot to execute certain movements to identify his aircraft from the two objects, which he did. The UFOs gradually drew away and vanished. All movements were confirmed on the radar screen. Melbourne's evening newspaper "The Herald", carried the following front page headlines: THOSE SAUCERS, THE MYSTERY DEEPENS. NAVAL AUTHORITIES ADMITTED TODAY THAT THEY COULD NOT FIND ANY HUMAN SOURCE FOR THE OBJECTS.

In 1973, when Dr. Hynek visited Australia, we contacted the former pilot and made arrangements for Dr. Hynek to meet

with the flight officer. This is another example where we cannot blame the military for mishandling the problem of unidentified flying objects. There have been many occasions where servicemen of all branches of the military have assisted private investigators in their research to try and ascertain the source of the elusive UFO.

A CE1 INCIDENT IN TASMANIA

One of the best sightings to come from the Tasmanian side of Bass Strait, occurred in October, 1960. An object was sighted by an Anglican minister, Reverend Lionel Browning and his wife at Creasy, a small town near Lonceston. The UFO was first seen by Mrs Browning, who called his attention to the object. They observed a grey cigar-shaped object with vertical bands on the side and a "rod" that projected from one end. They assumed that this could be an antenna. Reverend Browning had been sceptical about "flying saucer" reports, but stated "that it was no normal aircraft because it was descending below stalling speed." After about a minute the "ship" stopped and hovered for about 30 seconds, at which time five "saucers" swooped out of the clouds as if joining a "mother-ship." He estimated that they were about three miles away at that time. He described them as being flat on the bottom with a dome on top. Reverend Browning did not make his report until a few days later because he thought people would think the story was too fantastic to be the truth. It was only after other people reported the same phenomena that he and Mrs Browning came forward.

One of the first definite indications that official investigators were not in agreement with overall official policies concerning unidentified flying objects came to light during a meeting with the officer who investigated this encounter, when we showed him a letter from RAAF headquarters concerning the incident. We were told that the letter differed altogether from the report which he submitted to the head office. The RAAF debunking statement had attributed the sighting to reflections on scud-type clouds. The investigating officers disagreed with this "explanation." Years later while Professor James McDonald, an atmospheric scientist, was visiting Australia, he made a follow-up investigation of this case, and found from weather charts that the climatic conditions at that time made scud-type clouds impossible.

HUMAN AND ANIMAL REACTION EXPERIENCE

On February 15th, 1963 a disc-shaped object with a transparent dome descended to a low level near a milking shed, located at Willow Grove, near Moe, Victoria. The colour of the main body of the UFO was described as battleship grey. The object hovered a few seconds before flying away. During that time the cattle panicked to the extent that they could not be milked. For a period of several weeks the cattle avoided the spot over which the UFO had hovered. The witness, Charles Brew, was the only witness to the sighting, although his son Trevor was inside the shed and heard the swishing sound made by the object. Even though the sighting was of a short duration, VUFORS investigators made the 90 mile trip from Melbourne and found that official Australian investigators had already been there. The

witness developed a headache, which was rare for him. He did not realize that the pain was associated with the close encounter until the official investigator questioned him. A scientist, who accompanied the investigator, took rock samples for analysis. This is an indication that at least 21 years ago, Australian officials were examining radiation and human physical effects resulting from close encounters with unidentified flying objects.

FIRST UFO CONFERENCE IN AUSTRALIA

In 1965, the first UFO convention took place at Ballarat, Victoria. It was organized by the astronomical society of that city. The conference was not only attended by ufologists, but officials from the RAAF, including the former Air Marshall, Sir George Jones. This was another indication that some interest and co-operation already existed within the ranks of officialdom and the Australian UFO research community.

WAS A UFO RESPONSIBLE FOR DEATH OF A YOUNG MAN?

A strong possibility exists that a UFO caused the death of 19 year old Gary Taylor, at Bourks Flat, while he was driving to St. Arnaud, Victoria, on April 7th, 1966. Three days prior to Gary's death, Mr Ron Sullivan had encountered a strange object at the same spot where Gary was killed. Mr Sullivan first saw the object on the ground. As he drew near, he could see it was disc-shaped with beams of light in every colour of the rainbow. When he was almost opposite the UFO, his headlights were suddenly drawn to the object and "bent" back to the road directly in front of him. This case was investigated by VUFORS as well as the Victorian police. The UFO had left a four foot depression in the freshly ploughed ground. There were no tracks leading to the spot where the depression was made.

A few days after the death, a motorist phoned VUFORS that he had been approaching from the opposite direction at the time and had seen the UFO in the paddock, but fled in terror. The motorist was concerned because he had not reported the details to the police and was afraid that he had committed an offence by not doing so. Twelve years later, we found further confirmation that a UFO was indeed at the same location where Taylor had crashed into a tree opposite the depressed spot in the paddock. Another motorist who had been following some distance behind the victim also saw the lights from the object and thought that Taylor had been blinded by those lights.

The Bourks Flat encounter occurred during a major flap in Victoria. Just prior to the death, a science teacher at Westall High School, together with scores of students, watched a silver-coloured object rise out of a paddock near the school and soar into the sky, leaving the grass depressed in an oblong football shape. The incident was investigated by VUFORS and later by Professor James McDonald. It is interesting to note that a few hours after the site was checked out by VUFORS, military-like vehicles were seen in the paddock and uniformed men were seen examining the depressed spot, after which the field was burned-off.

AIRLINE CAPTAIN PHOTOGRAPHS POSSIBLE UFO

Other restrictions regarding information on UFO encounters are evident. For example: a UFO was filmed by the captain of an air-

liner while flying to Port Moresby. The captain reported the incident via radio to officials. His instructions were not to have the film developed until his return to Australia. Upon his return, two officials were on hand to take the film. Although VUFORS was aware of the encounter, it was years later before we learned the identity of the captain. The revelation came after Judith Magee had completed a lecture to a Melbourne civic club. During the lecture she had mentioned this incident. An airline pilot approached Judy after the lecture, identified himself as the co-pilot of the airliner when the encounter took place and named the captain. She immediately recognised his name, since she had flown with him many years ago as the hostess of his flight crew.

AUSTRALIANS CONTRIBUTE TO CONDON COMMITTEE

In May, 1967, the Condon Committee at the University of Colorado at Boulder requested us to submit examples of UFO encounters from Australia. Since the project was contracted by the US Air Force, we expected to find a computerised selection of "Menzielian" scientists. During the 10 hour session, key Australian cases supplied by veteran ufologists from all over Australia were placed before the Condon Committee. It soon became evident that some individuals on the committee were not "Condonians". We were especially impressed with one member, Dr. David Saunders. He is the co-author of the book UFOS? YES, an expose of "where the Condon Committee went wrong." The Condon Report (scientific study of Unidentified Flying Objects) is one of the few books ever written where the conclusions and recommendations are in the first section. Dr. Edward V. Condon, the Project Director, probably desired that the reader would stop reading it after Section 1.

JAMES E. McDONALD VISIT

The meeting at the University of Colorado was followed by a three day visit with Professor McDonald, at the University of Arizona, in Tucson. The result of these meetings was a request for our assistance in organising interviews with key witnesses in "Ausy-talia", where he was provided with 80 selected cases involving people from all walks of life, including scientists, engineers, pilots, academics and officials. These were cases previously investigated by veteran ufologists from all over the country. Professor McDonald was a Senior Physicist at the Institute of Atmospheric Physics, at the University of Arizona, from 1958 to his untimely death in 1971. He had formerly served with US Navy Intelligence during world war two. Since we did not have submarines that could fly, McDonald's interest was in reports of objects going into and flying out of bodies of water. We are now in possession of a photograph of an unknown flying object emerging from the water, just 20 minutes before pilot Frederick Valentich flew over this same area

PILOTS REPORT MULTIPLE UFOS

Australia has had more than its share of UFO encounters involving aircraft. On August 22nd, 1968, UFOs were sighted from a Murchison Air Services charter flight by Captain Gordon Smith and pilot Walter Gardin. They were flying from Adelaide to Perth. The pilots were interviewed by a psychologists who sent Captain Smith's personal report to VUFORS. The object was first seen by Mr Gardin. He immediately aroused Captain Smith, who was asleep in the aft-end of the aircraft. The time was shortly after 7.30pm. The two pilots observed a large object in which

an opening appeared permitting smaller objects to fly out of the main object and continued to manoeuver with the larger UFO. As this operation was in progress, their radio communications failed. This was probably due to the usual electromagnetic effects associated with close encounters, because their radio communications were restored after the objects flew away. The objects were last seen after they joined again, "as if at a single command" before speeding away. Later, when Professor McDonald tried to make further inquiries about the incident, the pilots refused to respond. We assumed that they were following specific instructions in this regard. Years later a pilot member of VUFORS said he was personally acquainted with the captains and confirmed to us that the pilots had indeed been told not to discuss the encounter further.

OFFICIAL INTEREST EVOKED BY VALENTICH ENCOUNTER

The most outstanding UFO case in Australia has since become the greatest mystery in Australian aviation history. It is the Frederick Valentich encounter. That incident has done more to change the attitude of Australian officials than any other event. This became obvious when a RAAF official actually contacted a witness for his permission to be interviewed by the press for the purpose of publication in order to encourage other reports from reliable witnesses. This request came just 22 days after the Valentich disappearance. The reliable witness was an active master mariner with 35 years responsible seagoing experience. Before this appeal was made to encourage reports from the public, let us go back to the time immediately after the pilot's disappearance. We learned of other behind-the-scene activity of some officials, such as the Forestry Commission telephoning instructions to fire tower lookouts to report unidentified flying objects. This call went to at least, the lookout towers in the Otway Ranges near Cape Otway. Police officers at various locations were instructed to interview witnesses who had reported unusual sights and sounds on that date in their areas. Aircraft pilots were called upon to report sightings of unidentified objects and lights in the sky. Instructions were given to pilots who were flying at the same time and utilising the same radio frequency not to divulge any details of their communications. Attempts were made to make it appear that the pilot was not where he reported his location. Attempts were made to make the encounter appear to the public as a fabrication.

"PROFESSORS OF IMPOSSIBILITY."

During my travels and correspondence I have found many false stories circulating around the world regarding this most important case. I have found that these inaccurate statements are coming from individuals at home and abroad. These are people who live hundreds of miles from the scene where the action took place, new-comers to the field, newsmen and journalists who write about everything and are experts on nothing except misquotations and last but not least, "Professors of Impossibility" from the scientific community who have concocted preconceived opinions and have tried to make their ideas fit around them.

TO BE CONTINUED

John Spencer was educated in north-west London and first became interested in UFOs in the mid-1960s. This led to skywatching expeditions with two friends from his schooldays - Bob Digby and Stephen Gamble - in the early 1970s. He is a long-standing member of BUFORA and was the Association's Treasurer until 1982 when he resigned in order to set up his own chartered accountancy firm. He remains a valuable member of Council.

John's interest in UFOs has led him in recent years to apply Nexialist principles (via A.C. Von Vogt) to the subject bringing a cross-reference from one subject to another in order to help answer some questions about the phenomenon.

In this article John looks at the question of regressive hypnosis and warns against some of its dangers.

Hypnosis is a tool known and misunderstood since the latter half of the 18th century. In more recent years much of its mysticism has been removed and the general public has come to understand it more. Regressive hypnosis is much less well understood, and because of its frequent link with the occult much of its mysticism remains. The main uses to which it has been put are in the fields of reincarnation, and UFO abductions where, for several reasons, the subject has an amnesiac block surrounding his traumatic experience and into which regressive hypnosis is said to be able to search.

Both fields contain a well-documented case where both the subject and the individual undergoing regressive hypnosis can be studied. With reincarnation the classic is THE SEARCH FOR BRIDEY MURPHY by Morey Bernstein and with UFO abduction investigations, John G. Fuller's THE INTERRUPTED JOURNEY, the story of Betty and Barney Hill. Quotations are from the latter book unless otherwise stated.

Let us consider the basic premise on which rests the belief that regressive hypnosis is largely a calibrated tool in UFO research. First, the Close Encounter of the Third Kind is witnessed by a person. That person has a memory. For various reasons (the two most popular being either traumatic amnesia or as a direct instruction from the alien abductees) the person is unable to remember details of the contact. Regressive hypnosis takes that person back to the time of the contact and helps him or her both to relive the experience and recall in detail what happened as if it were actually taking place at that moment.

I believe that regressive hypnosis far from being a calibrated tool, creates an uncalibrated tool when combined with such a speculative subject matter as UFOs and reincarnation. To quote from the introduction by Benjamin Simon, MD (who hypnotised the Hills) from the introduction to THE INTERRUPTED JOURNEY:

"Hypnosis is the pathway to the Truth as it is felt and understood by the patient. The Truth is what he believes to be the truth, and this may or may not be consonant with the ultimate non-personal truth."

In a separate section of the book the author states that it is common in hypnosis for the subject to give the answer that most pleases the hypnotist.

In order to study the use of regressive hypnosis we must first study the Hills' case.

BETTY AND BARNEY HILL

On September 19th, 1961, Betty and Barney Hill were driving through New Hampshire, USA when they saw a UFO, which Barney at first believed to be an aeroplane, moving on an erratic course,, but keeping pace with the car. Later the UFO was seen quite close as a much larger structure and this time in front of the car. Barney, taking some binoculars, got out of the car, moved closer and observed occupants looking at him through the object's windows. He believed himself about to be captured and ran back to the car. The Hills drove off but began to feel drowsy and conscious of a "beeping" noise. When their drowsiness lifted they could still hear the noise and realised that they were now some 35 miles from the point of contact, and that it was now two hours later. For the next two years they attempted to remember what had happened during that missing time but failed. They also suffered from medical problems, Barney underwent treatment for blood pressure and ulcers and started a course of psychiatric treatment. In February, 1964 regressive hypnosis revealed that during the missing two hours he and Betty had been compelled to turn off the road, had been abducted from the car by "aliens" taken aboard the UFO and subjected to a medical examination. They had then been told that they would forget this experience, were replaced in the car and sent on their way. It must be stressed that their actual recall of the incident under regressive hypnosis contained considerably more detail, the above is only a very rough summary.

We must first look at the measuring and recording instruments themselves, i.e. Betty and Barney Hill. Before we do this, I would like to summarise my final conclusions as they form the framework of this article.

I believe that Betty and Barney Hill saw a UFO during their journey, although I draw no conclusions as to what it might have been. It is worth noting however that Barney at first thought it an aeroplane. Fuller described Barney as "an avid plane watcher" and later, in recalling the incident, both the Hills many times, both consciously and under hypnosis, although admittedly in a confused and agitated state, referred to the UFO as the moon. From the UFO researcher's point of view, the identification of the object is important, but from that of a study of regressive hypnosis it need not be. What is clear is that they saw something, that they believed that they saw something and that incident upset and agitated them. Betty Hill subsequently had vivid nightmares in which she believed that she and her husband had been taken aboard the flying saucer and subjected to a medical examination. It is admitted by all parties that she had these nightmares, although those who believe the incident to have been factual also believe that the dreams were inspired by the incident. Betty discussed these nightmares with her husband. There is serious conflict of evidence surrounding this point for it is thought that she had not remembered the experience in detail and had certainly not communicated it to Barney, at least not until the regressive hypnosis treatment began. Fuller says: "The question of how Betty's dreams were absorbed by Barney would have to be carefully examined."

SEARCHING ENQUIRY

It is known that in September, 1962 (following the incident but prior to regression) the Hills spoke to a UFO study group in Massachusetts and described in some detail the experience and the resultant dreams, unaware that this talk had been tape-recorded. There is no difficulty, therefore, in understanding how Barney became aware of Betty's dreams, he had heard her talking about them. Fuller's book makes it clear that the Hills discussed the dreams before regressive hypnosis therapy, with Barney playing the part of the sceptic.

If the UFO sighting was the only incident involved, that it inspired fearful nightmares which Betty and Barney then discussed, perhaps in the context of space exploration and UFOs and that under regressive hypnosis a hotchpotch of memory, fantasies, anxieties and dreams emerged, then we have to consider why a seemingly uneventful sighting should inspire such fearful fantasy and why regressive hypnosis could not distinguish shadow from substance.

Let us look at the Hills. They are described as a pleasant, well-adjusted couple of above average intelligence. A more searching enquiry into their personal lives however shows areas of potential stress: their marriage was a mixed one, Barney was a Negro, Betty a Caucasian. Such a marriage is subject to stress even now and it is inconceivable that there would not have been greater stresses in the late 1950s and early 1960s in puritan New England, and particularly at a time when Martin Luther King was conducting his civil rights campaign - a cause dear to the hearts of the Hills. "They stomped the State of New Hampshire speaking for the cause of Civil Rights." Barney is said to have two sons from a former marriage which ended either in a divorce from, or the death of, his former wife, both a potential source of past or present stress. Betty described him as "a worrier at times," his job "a daily 120-mile round trip" had, Barney felt, "been instrumental in causing his ulcer to kick up, a condition for which he was under medical treatment." At the time of the interrupted journey Barney "was waiting for the results of a recent x-ray of his ulcer that his doctor had taken." Of their intelligence, Fuller says: "Barney (had) an I.Q. of nearly 140."

FANTASIES

An intelligent mind, trapped in routine is a vacuum waiting to be filled. High intelligence, far from not producing fantasies, is prone to doing just that. Part of British military training is to isolate a soldier in a forest throughout the night in order that knowledge can be gained of the fantasies that result from so unstimulating an environment. I have spoken to a soldier, a reasonably level-headed and intelligent person, who found this ordeal quite frightening since it led to his seeing and hearing things which his later investigations proved to be non-existent. Less intelligent soldiers in this isolation showed no anxieties whatsoever.

Betty had undergone a hysterectomy, clearly a potential source of stress. A comparison can be made between the Hills' case and a 1967 contact reported by Betty Andreasson. She describes a similar abduction and medical examination in which an

exactly similar technique was used to study her womb. Medical reports show that Betty Andreasson had also undergone a hysterectomy. Betty Hill's dream also revealed that semen had been removed from Barney. Such fantasies could be generated by, if not the desire for children, then at least the loss of the ability to reproduce them. Of course, the comparison between the two cases is only relevant if it can be shown that Andreasson had not read the reports about Betty Hill. The source of the fantasy would then be quite clear. Thus the Hills had intelligent minds, unstretched by their circumstances but certainly stretched by fears and anxieties.

We must ask then why such a bizarre and elaborate fantasy when, after all, many hundreds of thousands of people face the same stresses and fears? Why should the Hills' subconscious concoct the fantasy that it did? If we accept that in Betty's case her acceptance of the fantasy as reality is merely a result of the strength of the fantasy then why should Barney be convinced of its reality merely by being told by Betty of her dreams?

SOCIAL CONDITIONING?

To answer that we have to look at New Hampshire, USA, between 1961 and 1964 because at that time and in that place there existed stimuli which could help generate a fantasy. One event in particular would produce an emotion so intense that the subject of space exploration would occupy everybody's mind.

The decade which followed Kenneth Arnold's 1947 sighting and the use of the term "flying saucer" produced many films on UFO contacts and abductions, some of which are now deservedly cinema classics - others less so! THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL, MAN FROM PLANET X (1951); INVADERS FROM MARS, WAR OF THE WORLDS (1953); TARGET EARTH (1954); THIS ISLAND EARTH (1955); EARTH VERSUS THE FLYING SAUCERS, INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS (1956); INVASION OF THE SAUCER MEN, 1957; I MARRIED A MONSTER FROM OUTER SPACE, 1958. Their general theme was of UFOs arriving on earth usually hoping to conquer it and capturing or abducting human beings in the process.

In the 1950s and 1960s, particularly in America, cinema-going was not as it is today. Today we go to see a particular film, then it was customary to go, usually on a Saturday night, without even knowing what was showing, and sit through the entire evening's programme. It was a social gathering and its importance lay as much in meeting other people as seeing the film. We do not know if Betty and Barney Hill were part of this ritual, but it is inconceivable that they would not have been in contact with people who were and would not have known of the films being screened. Television was showing its new series THE TWILIGHT ZONE (seen recently on British television) and the Hills were aware of this series. Part of a conversation between Betty and Barney at the time of the contact went:

"Betty:and I laughed and asked him if he had watched 'Twilight Zone' recently on T.V.

Doctor: Why did you mention 'Twilight Zone'?

Betty: Because the idea was fantastic.

Betty does state that she never watched the programme, but clearly she was not only aware of it but, more important, of its sci-fi content.

SPACE HERO

One extraordinary statement with regard to the background to the fantasy came from Barney: "...but I have not talked about flying

saucers since 1957, when we were talking about Sputnik. And this was 1961." The implication is that there was no reason to generate this fantasy since space exploration was not on his mind and had not been for four years, and he is, therefore, an impartial observer. We must regard this as a desire to be believed, since it cannot be true. Four months and two weeks to the day prior to the interrupted journey - May 5th, 1961 - Alan Shepherd became the first American in space. His tiny 15 minute sub-orbital space hop was unspectacular by today's standards, but at that time he was regarded as the greatest living American and his flight was seen as a rebuttal of Soviet dominance of space. His subsequent ticker-tape parade, accompanied by media adulation and mass hysteria, was indicative of American emotion both towards him, his flight and space exploration. Shepherd came from Derry, New Hampshire, on Betty and Barney Hill's doorstep. By no stretch of the imagination would coverage in the local newspapers and on television and radio, leading up to, during and subsequent to Shepherd's flight have escaped the Hill's attention. They must have discussed US space exploration at that time if they had discussed flying saucers in relation to the Russian Sputnik. Shepherd was both a national and a local hero, the Hill's could not have ignored his achievement.

DREAMS AND NIGHTMARES

I think I have shown that the stimuli existed for a fantasy of the nature described. We now move on to the second area of our investigation i.e. why was regressive hypnosis unable to sort shadow from substance? The answer lies, as it inevitably must, in the minds of Betty and Barney Hill. First they were not strangers to the subject. "In 1957 Betty's sister and family had described seeing clearly an UFO in New Hampshire. Betty believed the story, Barney was more sceptical." Secondly, her dream some 10 days after the alleged incident inspired Betty to examine the subject closely. She contacted Major Donald Keyhoe of NICAP and followed up this enquiry by reading much UFO material. Of the dreams "they continued for five successive nights." Never had she had dreams of such detail and intensity. They dominated her waking life during that week and continued to plague her afterwards. "They assumed the proportion of nightmares." Betty and Barney discussed those dreams: "the reality or non-reality of the dreams was, of course, foremost in Betty's mind. For nearly two years the answer to this question had been gnawing away at her. For Barney, as he had already told Betty, was hoping that once and for all she would accept the fact that her experience in regard to an abduction was no more than an intense series of dreams."

Of the UFO Barney says: "The physical structure of the craft itself fitted in with my conscious attitude of what a craft like this would look like." Dr. Allen Hynek asked Barney: "How do you know what flying saucers look like?" Barney replied: "I was looking in a magazine, I think it was Post magazine."

So there existed a plethora of input into the minds of Betty and Barney Hill. An initial sighting, dreams, the transmission of those dreams to Barney, reading of UFO material (which could possibly have included the Antonio Villas Boas case of 1957) and Barney's reading of what a flying saucer might look like. All this on top of the subliminal suggestions from films, television and the birth of the US space programme.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION

What we have is a fantasy constructed by intelligent minds from simple stimuli overlaid by many of the social attitudes of the time. But why should Betty and Barney Hill generate it, and why should it be such a cause of later anxiety? I am not considering the fantasy at the level of space exploration which has already been discussed, but at a more personal level. The greatest fears revealed by the regression hypnosis surround the medical examination. Betty had undergone her operation and Barney at the time was waiting x-ray results. Under hypnosis he recalled thinking, when being dragged into the spacecraft, "I don't want to be operated on" although no such suggestion had been made. If Betty's anxieties concerned her infertility, and having described her dreams to Barney, would not his anxieties latch onto his fears that he might at some time have to undergo an operation for his ulcer?

The fantasy itself, has a clear, dream-like quality as the book demonstrates: "The doctor believed that the abduction to have taken place to be too improbable, much material was similar to dream material. Betty's recall under hypnosis paralleled her dream almost exactly."

The book also quotes many dream-like qualities relating to the incident: "Floating or gliding on the part of both the reported humanoids and the subject the inability of the subjects to strike outtemporary amnesiaability to communicate by thought transference and inarticulate sounds..."

LANGUAGE

In this case Barney is obsessed with piercing eyes which seem to dominate him although they did not appear to be attached to a body, a common enough characteristic of dreams. Also there is inconsistency in the material itself, a point raised by Fuller and easily explained if you consider the quality of dreams. The ufonauts used what appeared to be idiomatic English, for example: "You'll be on your way home in no time" and yet some of their questions, "What are vegetables?" "What is old?" "What is yellow?" show a remarkable lack of knowledge of the language inconsistent with the use of a phrase such as "in no time," meaningless at face value, but significant at the deeper level of understanding language.

The doctor notes: "There seem to be indications that a great deal of the experience was absorbed by Barney Hill from Betty, in spite of his insistence that this was his own. And there are definite indications that her dreams had been suggested as a reality by her supervisor." The doctor later concludes: "From the available evidence from all sources and present knowledge of mental functioning he could accept the probability that the Hills had had an experience with an unusual aerial phenomenon, a sighting that stimulated an intense emotional experience in both of them. He felt that the abduction was improbable." He points out that: "Psychological amnesia exists for the purpose of repressing or wiping out intolerable emotional experiences. Is this amnesia in a sense of wiping out real experience, or an amnesia relating to the wiping out of an intensely painful fantasy."

PRE-BIRTH MEMORIES?

Regressive hypnosis, searching in Betty and Barney's minds for recall, could produce this complex combination of memory and fantasy and yet be unable to distinguish between the two. Dr. Simon takes great pains not to stimulate memory by too much direction, but by the very nature of the exercise, in order to concentrate their minds on the incident, he has to refer to aeroplanes and aerial phenomena, and these can take the form of hypnotic suggestion. Criticism of Morey Bernstein's regression of Ruth Simmons in THE SEARCH FOR BRIDEY MURPHY stems from the opening phrases of his hypnosis which are: "Go still further back, until, oddly enough you find yourself in some other scene, in some other place, in some other time and when I talk to you again you will tell me about it." If there was no previous time for Ruth Simmons prior to birth, the doctor's questions could act as an instruction to create one from fantasy, particularly given that the subject is keen to please the hypnotist by providing the answer he requires. It has been shown that several of Ruth Simmons' alleged pre-birth memories could relate to her young life and the stories read to her when she was at an impressionable age. Such is not the case with the Hills, but the tape transcripts reveal subtle similarities to this reinforcement of dreams, particularly given the possibility that both were desirous of pleasing the hypnotist, whom, in the Hills' case, they both liked and missed when the sessions ended.

FALLIBLE MEMORY

Part of the problem relates to memory itself. The assumption that memory is fixed and unchanging is clearly incorrect. If regressive hypnosis is able to take a person back in time, whether or not they are able to remember that time consciously, there is clear evidence that recall does not take place as it would at the precise time of the incident, but is affected by events subsequent to the incident, but prior to the regression. Ruth Simmons, regressed as Bridey Murphy, used many Irish phrases of which we are told she was normally unaware. This is cited as the strength of the case, but at the same time, she used many Americanisms (calling sweets "candy") when she was ostensibly Bridey Murphy. If regression was taking her back to a previous life, then her past memory is being coloured by later events. In the case of the Hills any memory of September 19th, 1961 will be coloured by events subsequent to it; these subsequent memories could include reading NICAP material, the dreams themselves, of course, and subsequent discussions about them and the experience with Betty's family, husband and others.

Why are there so many cases similar to this one and why do so many similarities exist between them? These are often instanced as evidence for the validity of the incidents. The question is really one for UFO researchers but the point can be made that the reading of one case can clearly influence the fantasies which become another, each individual one being somewhat distorted by the particular anxieties of the contactee. In the case of Villas Boas, his own contact fantasy, if fantasy it was, included being forced to have intercourse with an attractive alien woman. If it was a fantasy, it does not take an enormous leap of intellect to analyse Boas' personal anxiety.

CONCLUSION

I believe regression hypnosis to be an unreliable tool for UFO research. The contactee may have hidden fears and anxieties of which the UFO researcher is unaware, regression hypnosis itself is not fully understood even by those who practice it, and there is no scientific control over the experiment, i.e. a framework within which to study the outcome of the experiment. We have never been able categorically to prove in any regression hypnosis case that the revelations are true, other than that they are true to the individual relating them. I refer of course to areas involving trauma and psychological amnesia, not to more pedestrian tests of regression hypnosis such as remembering the names of everyone who attended your fifth birthday party, which do not compare and are a sufficiently controlled experiment because they lack the trauma which is the important ingredient in UFO abduction cases. In this respect the contactee is an uncalibrated instrument and regression hypnosis a distorted hand-glass with which to read the instrument, together they may complicate rather than complement the investigation. No one practising regression hypnosis and no researcher relying on its outcome, should do so without a thorough investigation of the contactee and the methods employed by the hypnotist to provoke recollection.

There is, finally, an amusing and appropriate note from Leslie Lecron's book EXPERIMENTAL HYPNOSIS published in 1952. In discussing whether or not a person could be instructed to do something under hypnosis which was not basically in his own character. Lecron said: "There is about as much danger for one to become involved in hypnotically inspired anti-social actions as there is to being struck by a flying saucer."

Perhaps he should have talked to Betty and Barney Hill!

REPORT ON THE NIC MEETING - Warrington, OCTOBER, 1984

The National Investigations Committee (NIC) met on Sunday, October 14th, 1984 at Idle, Bradford, West Yorkshire and had a day of valuable discussions. Jenny Randles, co-ordinator of meeting picks out the high-lights of the day in this report which makes it clear that if Idle was Idle the group itself was certainly not.

Those attending the meeting were co-ordinators NIGEL MORTIMER (North-East); MIKE WOOTTEN (London and East); AIs, RICHARD ADAMS and PAUL FULLER (Central and South-East) plus investigator NIGEL SMITH (London), and representatives from WYUFORG (Yorkshire) and MUFORA (North-West)

Items arising from the previous meeting concerned analysis of the trousers in the 1978 Livingston incident and of the Peter Day movie film. Research on this pointed to the object on the film as being an aircraft, and Ken Phillips had done background research into this possibility. Richard Adams agreed to establish contact with SCUFDRI via Ian Mrzyglod and assume NIC responsibility for the case, but working with SCUFDRI if they were still involved with the case. Ken Phillips was to be invited to pass his aircraft data to Richard Adams who would collate data on the case for NIC and to report on the position of the case at the next NIC meeting. Peter Warrington had not been able to arrange for computer enhancement of the film but he had several first generation slides from the film. Peter Hough (MUFORA) agreed to obtain these from Peter, and Jenny Randles agreed to contact a professional source in the UK who had offered computer enhancement on slides and to liaise with Peter Hough to get computer enhancement underway.

PHOTOGRAPHIC POLICY FOR NIC CASES

- (a) All initial photographic cases of sufficient interest - the AI to forward details and copy of print to NIGEL MORTIMER who has arranged with a professional photographic laboratory in Stroton to give him an initial appraisal (in writing) within a few weeks.
- (b) Any slides/movie film cases regarded as of interest after (a) - the AI to contact Michele Clare, 17 Old Quarry Avenue, Wales, Sheffield S31 8RW (Tel: 0909 772515) whose associate Tony Marshall has access to computer enhancement work and will be able to assess the viability of using this on the particular case.
- (c) Any still/print cases regarded of interest after (a) - several options open to AIs. Public Relations, Kodak Laboratories, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire are willing to inspect - but it might be difficult to persuade them to put a report in writing, and they will only look at truly interesting cases. Dr. Vernon Harrison, a professional photographic analyst, will evaluate. Ground Saucer Watch will perform computer enhancement on print cases. Current cost will be \$25, for which a written report will be sent. The investigator will have to meet this - although it is hoped that BUFORA might be able to help on cost.

Jenny Randles will submit a recently acquired still photo case (c/o ASSAP) on which ASSAP have agreed to finance work, to GSW, Arizona, for computer enhancement. A report back to NIC will allow NIC to judge the value of such work in future. When NIC work on a photo case is complete it will go to BUFORA for their follow-up.

NEW PHOTOGRAPHIC CASES

The mysterious daylight movie film remains anonymous. Richard Adams agreed to contact the media in Luton (the postmark of its arrival) and try to aim a story to get its camera-man to come forward. Peter Hough agreed to obtain the film from Peter Warrington on behalf of the NIC and computer enhancement in Sheffield was to be explored.

Nigel Mortimer outlined the Appletreewick, North Yorkshire case. Harry Harris had obtained a (mildly ludicrous) professional written report on the case and this was discussed. The report suggests that the case (involving a still photograph of a clear balloon-shaped object above a troupe of dancers) might be interesting. Jenny agreed to write to Harry and ask for the return of the negative so that Nigel Mortimer could proceed with computer enhancement. via GSW.

COMPUTERISATION OF DATA

Mike Wootten described his preliminary project using a Spectrum 48K which now had 30 recent BUFORA reports on it. Nigel Mortimer (also with a Spectrum 48K) had 300 northern cases coded. Mike and Nigel agreed to co-ordinate projects and work to data record all NIC cases on a north/south split. Paul Fuller, a professional statistician agreed to join the team to develop the basic program and work out a standard one-page form to be appended to the case report on which AIs could offer simple data to be computerised. This will speed the transfer. To maintain standards old cases will not be coded, only post NIC formation reports. This system (because it uses one of the most common and cheapest computers available) will be accessible to many ufologists. It will form an excellent data base and research tool. Making it available to the media (at a charge) for access to case data will be explored. ALL BULLETIN MEMBERS WHO ARE SPECTRUM USES SHOULD CONTACT PAUL FULLER TO HELP SET UP A REGISTER FOR FUTURE USE.

ANAMNESIS

Concern was expressed about the psychological questionnaire which Ken Phillips, Training Officer, is trying to adopt. This new approach, because of its innovatory stance, was worrying many. It was felt that the Anamnesis data was of interest, but that it had to be coupled, certainly whilst it was still in its early stages, with the standard AI report. The NIC wished to see some independent support for anamnesis but were willing to see its value (especially in CE3/4 cases) in support of traditional methods.

NIC HANDBOOK

Copies of the 1979 UFOIN Guidelines were on view. These contained articles by specialists in certain kinds of case (e.g. a psychologist on contacts, a mechanic on car stops). It was felt that the NIC could produce an updated 1985 version and request funding from BUFORA to distribute it to all AIs. It was agreed to ask Albert Budden to collate ideas to present to the next NIC meeting. Paul Fuller offered to write a piece for this detailed basic data required for statistical/analyses purposes. Mike Wootten agreed to write an item on TV interference (his speciality). No doubt the compiler would come up with several other ideas. All AIs to contact Jenny with offers for articles/useful socialist contact addresses.

NIC COMPOSITION

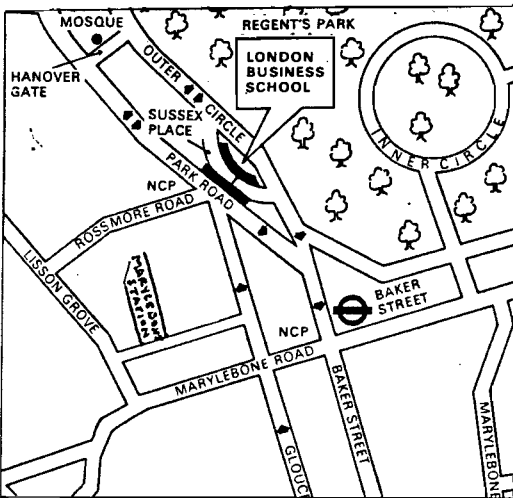
This was agreed as being adequate for the moment, but all credible local groups were to be made welcome at any NIC meeting. A decision was taken to urge BUFORA Bulletin to carry a full report of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 36

1985 BUFORA MEETINGS Sat. 6.30pm

Venue: LONDON BUSINESS SCHOOL, SUSSEX PLACE, off OUTER CIRCLE, REGENT'S PARK, NW1.

(nearest tube and buses: BAKER STREET STATION. Further: MARYLEBONE STATION)



THE FOLLOWING EVENING LECTURES WILL BE HELD DURING 1985.

Members are asked to note that there will be a lecture in January this year, and also one in June, 1985 both are additional to the usual programme. Details of the June lecture will be given in a later issue of the BULLETIN.

Council hope that as many members and non-members will attend in order to make the meetings as lively and as successful as possible.

Entrance fee is £1 for BUFORA member, £2.50 for non-members.

January 5th, 1985. ABDUCTIONS: ALIENS AND ALTERNATIVES

John Rimmer, ALA, DipAD.

John Rimmer is a librarian, editor of MAGONIA, one of the leading UFO journals and has been actively involved in the study of the phenomenon for over 20 years. His recently published book EVIDENCE FOR ALIEN ABDUCTIONS is the first general survey of the whole abduction phenomenon to be published in the UK. Abductions have always been one of the most controversial aspects of the UFO enigma. They provoke heated debate about the reality of the abductee(s)' experience and this often obscures the significance of the real event. Mr Rimmer will survey alternative ways of approaching the abduction enigma and suggest ways in which individual cases may be put into a wider perspective.

February 2nd, 1985. UFOS - A NEW CONCEPT

Albert Budden

Albert Budden is a former science teacher, a BUFORA AI and the author of HIGH STRANGENESS, to be published during 1985. This lecture, based on his book, reconciles in a single theory the idea that UFOs are both physical 'nuts and bolts' objects and also psychic/mental apparitions. This is believed to be a completely new approach in explaining the phenomena and will certainly arouse very much controversy.

See pages 29 of this issue of the BULLETIN for a more detailed account of the theory to be put forward.

March 2nd, 1985

THE EARTHLIGHTS DEBATE - THE DEATH OF UFOLOGY?

Paul Devereux

Paul Devereux is the author of the controversial book EARTHLIGHTS published in 1982, and he will discuss in this lecture the implications of his theory for the future of ufology in general.

It is hoped to make the lecture a two part debate with a second lecturer taking an opposing view to that of Paul.

April 13th, 1985

UFOs: PROPERTY OR POSSESSION?

Ralph Noyes

Ralph Noyes is a former Assistant Under Secretary of State, MoD, and was for several years in charge of a Division of the central staffs of the Ministry with responsibility for the support of RAF operations, including RAF protection of British airspace. He has published several short pieces of speculative fiction in recent years which attempt to deal with the stranger properties of our environment, and he is the author of a forthcoming novel on the UFO phenomenon.

"Are we property?" asks Mr Noyes, echoing the famous words of Charles Fort. Are we "possessed?" Or do we "possess" them, these "unidentifieds?" But "property" and "possession" are words of several meanings. Ralph Noyes hopes to suggest some new approaches to the problems with which BUFORA deals.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS LECTURE, BECAUSE OF THE EASTER HOLIDAY, WILL BE HELD ON THE SECOND SATURDAY IN APRIL AND NOT THE FIRST.

May 4th, 1985

THE CLOSE ENCOUNTER CASE OF ALFRED BURTOO

Timothy Good

Timothy Good is one of this country's leading ufologists and a well-known lecturer and writer on the subject. In this lecture he will look at the case of Alfred Burtoo who claims that, on August 12th, 1983, he was taken aboard a landed UFO at Aldershot. The story is, says Mr Good "...one of the most convincing CE111 cases I have ever encountered in my 23 years of specialised investigation." It is hoped that Omar Fowler, Chairman and Investigation co-ordinator SIGNAP, who was the first to investigate this case will also be on hand to answer questions on the case together with Mr Burtoo himself, a man now in his late 70s.

DETAILS OF THE MEETING TO BE HELD ON JUNE 1st, 1985 WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN A LATER ISSUE OF THE BULLETIN.

Do you have any suggestions for speakers or topics? If so please let the Editor of the Bulletin know since we are now thinking about the lecture programme for 1985-86.

Mike Wootten is BUFORA's RIC for the East Region. In this short article he gives his impressions of what it is like to be a UFO investigator, and discusses some recent cases.

The East Region is quite a large area to 'police' as far as UFO investigation is concerned, in terms of both land mass and population. The region consists of Greater London, Essex, the eastern half of Hertfordshire and the southern half of Cambridgeshire. There are 11 million potential witnesses!

There are six investigators currently active in the Region: Bob Easton, sole investigator in Essex; Roy Rowlands, north-west London; Albert Budden, south west London; Nigel Smith, north London, Mike Lewis, Barnet and Hertfordshire and myself, east London.

Investigating case reports can be rewarding. It is time-consuming (especially when there is a "flap"), but the feeling of either solving a puzzling case, or coming to the conclusion that a particular incident is an Unknown, beyond any shadow of doubt, is, indeed, the best part of being involved with UFO investigations.

There are, of course, expenses to consider. Travelling costs are probably the greatest, but follow-up information does not always come cheap either. I once had to pay £11.50 for a weather report for a case on which I was working. Probably other investigators have paid much more for similar information.

Cases are usually obtained from a news-clipping agency, who pass on any news stories relevant to UFOs. In most of these reports there is enough information to trace the witness involved (looking through telephone directories etc). Other cases come via books, where BUFORA's address may be listed in an appendix. Very few cases come from official bodies such as the police. Some, maybe reported directly to an investigator by the witness if the investigator has been established in an area for a period of time.

VERY FRUSTRATING

No witness is the same. They are as different as the fingerprints on their hands. So you have to alter and mould your own personality to fit in best with theirs. This is not always easy. I find that if you talk to the witness about something completely unrelated to UFOs at the start of your investigation this puts them at their ease and shows that you are human! At the beginning of the conversation it is always possible that the witness will not co-operate. The worst situation is when the witness is enthusiastic and willing to participate fully in the investigation, but later on loses interest and fails to forward any information (i.e. report forms etc). This can be very frustrating indeed, but is something the UFO investigator eventually learns to live with.

CASES

Unfortunately there have been very few cases to investigate during 1983-84. From July, 1983 we have dealt with 13 cases, 12 of which were new and one dated back to July, 1981.

Of the 13 cases:

<u>NO</u>	<u>CLASSIFICATION</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>EVALUATION</u>
5	MED	5	Insufficient data
4	LOW	3	Under investigation
3	CEL PHOTO	2	Possible kite
1	CEL EM	1	Possible aircraft
1		1	Fireball
		1	Helicopter

There was a very high proportion of photographic cases. Although two are still under investigation, these do not show anything exotic and indicate mundane explanations:-

<u>NO</u>	<u>EVALUATION</u>
1	Blank negatives
1	Possible emulsion fault*
1	Possible meteorological balloon*

* Under investigation.

Despite a quiet year there were two distinct and interesting episodes. The first was located on the South Bank of the Thames (London, SE1) and the second was a succession of cases from Essex.

DATE 12.11.83. TIME 21.10GMT TYPE CEL PHOTO
LOCATION: Embankment, London, EC4.

A young couple were walking along the Embankment and as they looked at Cleopatra's Needle, they were distracted by a light hovering above the Thames. They described the object as oval but during the sighting it appeared to change shape and split in half. It was apparently silver in colour and seemed to rotate and move erratically around the sky. The witnesses continued to walk along the Embankment and saw other people looking at the object. Later they attracted the attention of three police officers who could not identify the object. In all 11 other people saw the object.

The sighting ended when the couple got back into their car and left the object continuing its erratic movements. The sighting lasted approximately 50 minutes. The primary witnesses took three photographs of the object with an Olympus Trip camera, but, unfortunately no record of the object was left on the exposures.

INVESTIGATOR Mike Wootten EVALUATION Possible kite.

DATE 24.4.84 TIME 21.45BST TYPE MED
LOCATION Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London EC1.

The two primary witnesses were leaving the Royal Festival Hall after a concert. They noticed that a number of people were staring skyward. Looking in the same direction they saw a gold coloured rotating object making fast erratic movements. It changed shape continuously from a butterfly to an oval, splitting into two separate spheres of gold.

The primary witnesses watched the object for approximately

15 minutes then left to catch the train home. There were some 60 other witnesses (according to the reporting witnesses).

INVESTIGATORS Roy Rowlands
Mike Wootten EVALUATION Possible kite

Since July, 1982 there have been three similar events prior to the two detailed in this article. All have the same movements and shape (including a description of a "butterfly"). They have been investigated by Bob Easton and Roy Rowlands.

Recently I received a reply from a Royal Festival Hall official who explained that on occasions he had seen someone flying a kite from Waterloo Bridge after dark. It is possible that a kite could be a possible explanation, but how is it that so many people have been fooled?

The second interesting chain of events occurred in Essex.

DATE 25.9.83 TIME 19.55BST TYPE MED
LOCATION Harwich Harbour, Essex

The witness was sailing his yacht into Harwich Harbour and as he checked his wind direction indicator on the top of the mast he saw a square shaped object with a circle positioned in each corner of the square. The object transversed the sky from east to west. It was white in colour and the circles seemed to be reflecting the light of the setting sun. The sighting lasted for about a minute. The object was lost from view when it merged with the horizon.

INVESTIGATOR Mike Lewis EVALUATION Insufficient data

DATE 10.10.83 TIME 19.15BST TYPE CE1 EM
LOCATION Hatfield Peveral, Essex

The primary witness had just gone to the dustbin and was idly looking into the sky when she noticed four lights appear from the south east and move across her field of view to the north. One of the group of four split away, descending towards the witness, then continuing its course to the north. A few moments later the main object executed a 180° turn back towards the south east, where it joined another group of lights. The main object was reported as being domed-shaped with a bank of coloured lights underneath. The other LITS seemed to be zig-zagging about the sky. Two LITS in particular came together as if they were "conversing with each other" (sic). The witness's husband and two children also saw the lights. The objects were apparently silent and the sighting lasted for about 15 minutes. The witnesses explained that during the time of the sighting, their colour television was suffering from interference.

INVESTIGATORS Steve Chetwynd EVALUATION Possible
Mike Wootten aircraft

DATE: 14.10.83 TIME 21.00BST TYPE: LOW
LOCATION: Colchester, Essex

The three witnesses observed for approximately four minutes an object with a bright white light and red lights underneath transverse the sky, just above the tree tops. The object made a sound like a jet aircraft.

INVESTIGATORS: Steve Chatwynd EVALUATION: Helicopter
Mike Wootten.

DATE: 15.11.83 TIME: 04.55GMT TYPE: LOW
LOCATION: Harwich Harbour/Southend on Sea, Essex.

There were multiple witnesses to this event. A bright green light was observed high in the sky, moving south by crews of two fishing vessels anchored off Harwich. The captains of the two ships reported the incident to coastguard officials at Harwich. The sighting lasted several seconds.

At the same time a milkman also saw the same object in Southend on Sea.

INVESTIGATORS: Bob Easton EVALUATION: Fireball

As each case was reported my hopes started to rise and the word "Flap" kept crossing my mind, but, unfortunately, each case was either explicable or lacked insufficient information to sustain an accurate evaluation.

The October and November, 1983 cases were just after the "News of the World" broke the story on Rendlesham Forest, and I am sure this was a contributory factor in the reporting of the events. The Hatfield Peveral case is worthy of some discussion. The aircraft evaluation may be a little hard to swallow, but the witnesses were very difficult to interview and their estimations of time, speed and size changed many times which emphasises that they were unsure of what exactly they had seen. That part of the world has very busy paths both civil and military. Television interference can be caused by the close proximity of aircraft.

My only hope is that there will be a little more activity in 1985!

STOP PRESS:

Mike Wootten was elected to BUFORA's Council following its AGM on December 1st, 1984 together with HILARY EVANS. JENNY RANGLES was re-elected for a further period of three years and the AGM confirmed the elections to Council of CHRIS PEARSON (Treasurer) and KEN PHILLIPS (Training Officer).

JOHN SHAW resigned from Council owing to his business commitments. John put in sterling work on the 1983 Congress and in dealing with the audio/visual presentations at the evening lectures. Council is most grateful to him.

It was to be quite a week. Around 1100 miles of travelling in just three days, all in pursuit of those elusive UFOs. It is a good thing that British Rail and I get on together!

When Bearta Lipman phoned me in March, 1984 and said that BBC Wales were planning a UFO programme I scarcely gave it a second thought. THE OBSERVER had just published an article based around the release of certain UFO files by the Ministry of Defence to me (amongst others). The 'files' were really slips of paper with little useful information on them and censorship had meant that data such as witness names and addresses had been deleted. Only one case had been easily traceable, since the name of a road had slipped through the censor's net. Using this fact the OBSERVER had done some on-the-beat journalism and found Mr and Mrs David Mason, witnesses to a strange light in Cwbran, South Wales, in September, 1982.

The sighting was hardly a candidate for UFO of the year, involving as it did a fairly innocuous phenomenon that hovered for a while and then took off across a mountain ridge at some speed. But the newspaper had to their credit seen the importance of the MoD's release of data to BUFORA and their admission that (a) they did have UFO reports and (b) they could not explain all of them. For an up market newspaper such as the OBSERVER this was quite a step into the light. Naturally I co-operated with them in every way that I could.

A LANDMARK

The Masons were interviewed and were rather surprised that a report on their sighting lay in some filing cabinet in Whitehall. Surprised because at no point had the Ministry of Defence ever contacted them, asked them any questions, or in anyway followed up the call that they had made to the local police station. How, they asked the newspaper, could the MoD have a file on their adventure without establishing contact with them? How could they (the Ministry) presume to dismiss it as unimportant without making enquiries or investigations? What, they wondered, did this imply about the extent to which the Ministry of Defence was doing its job? The headline "IT'S OFFICIAL: THERE ARE UFOs!" summed it all up and represented quite a landmark in the history of the relationship between ufology and the British media.

Because this case was from South Wales, as were several of the other half-a-dozen single-page report forms released to myself and Ian Mrzyglod, it was natural that BBC Wales should decide to follow up these vital questions. But after preliminary talks, where I proposed leads to be followed up, a long protracted silence ensued. In mid-June I was very surprised to receive an invitation to Cardiff to take part in a 30 minute film that was being put together on the matter.

So I travelled to the Welsh capital on a blustery but sunny day, stabled overnight in BBC accommodation, and was picked up bright and early to go to the studio to plan the action.

Out in the gardens surrounding the impressive building we filmed three reels of interview, lasting an hour and a half, in which I was given free rein to say what I liked. After each take we stopped to discuss what we had, with producer, director and interviewer, and I was asked to suggest further questions. In this way

we covered a very wide sweep of thoughts about the Ministry of Defence policy, contrasting it with actions in France, Russia, Australia and America. We also talked of specific Welsh cases (e.g. the encounter of the teenage boy Trevor, at Machynlleth and the mysterious impact on the mountains at Llandrillo in January, 1974, which led to the RAF mounting a huge search operation, ostensibly to find a non-existent meteorite).

RIPPERSTON FARM HOAX

One fascinating thing to emerge from the discussions on the Dyfed wave of 1977, or the so-called "Welsh Triangle", splendidly investigated for BUFORA at the time by Randall Jones-Pugh (see his book THE DYFED ENIGMA) concerned the famous Coombes family encounters at Ripperston Farm. My views on this were requested and I referred to the excellent retrospective investigations by Hilary Evans which effectively demolished most of it. The BBC were delighted about this and told me that they had succeeded themselves in destroying the "figure at the window" story in the Ripperston farm 'mystery.'

This particular incident had involved a silver-suited figure looking in through the window as Pauline Coombes watched television. It had been the start of the alien contact phase of her activities. Hilary Evans had suggested a hoax perpetrated by a member of the local rotary club. In fact the BBC had proved that it was a hoax. A local shop had been displaying a fire-fighting uniform in its window, at the time in question, as part of an advertising campaign. On the night of the Coombes' close encounter it is known that the uniform went missing, to be returned the next morning. The shopkeeper, whilst maintaining a wry smile, had pointed out to the BBC cameras that there had not been a break-in and the suit had not walked in and out of his shop on its own. He left virtually no doubt that he had in fact donned it and wandered off to the farmhouse to see if Mrs Coombes would be "dumb" enough to fall for it - as he apparently implied that she had.

We all know what happened next!

After this fascinating and productive interview session I drove across Cardiff with the television crew to a field beside the River Taff at Llandaff. This was the scene of an intriguing encounter at 7.15pm on the night of January 19th, 1983. It was one of the other pieces of paper which the Ministry of Defence had released to me, but which had seemed hopeless in terms of the prospect of follow-up. The MoD version of events was of "one object...similar to a star or planet..." seen to be static, from a house in South Wales! In truth this was seen to be grossly over-simplified.

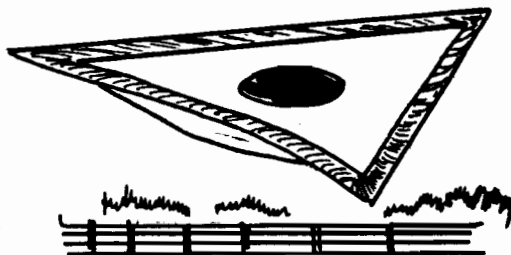
The BBC resources had traced three witnesses to this event who were in a car at the time. BUFORA currently has no investigators in South Wales (is there anybody there?) and so we had allowed this promising case to slip by us. But on site, between takes when the witness reconstructed the sighting with a BBC artist and I commented on the case, I recorded an interview with Mrs G.

GIANT UFO

Mrs G was in the car with her husband and a Dr.D. Dr. D (who now lives in Staffordshire) is a medical man without a car. It is the job of Mr G to drive such people in the Cardiff area to their various emergency calls. Such was the situation on this fine evening as they drove on the snaking road into Llandaff that parallels the river.

Just ahead of them Mr G saw a bright flashing light which he took to be an aircraft. He pointed it out to his wife and Dr. D and commented on its brilliance. But as they drove, more or less straight towards it, it seemed to be stationary. After about two minutes they made a right turn over a bridge across the river and now found some open parkland to their left, with large tennis courts in the centre. The UFO was hovering directly over these courts and was plainly not an aircraft.

Mr G had slowed the car right down and pulled over to the side of the road. But much traffic was passing by and people were on the pavement. None of them seemed to be even slightly interested in the behaviour of Mr G. or his passengers, in slowing on a dangerous bend, nor of the giant UFO hovering right beside them. They acted as if oblivious to it!



THE UFO SEEN BY MR &
MRS G. AND DR.D AT
LLANDAFF, CARDIFF IN
JANUARY, 1983.

In retrospect Mrs G. sees this as quite the most peculiar thing. But she says that they just lost all awareness of the traffic and people and focussed in on the UFO. Only it and they existed and time stretched out. She thinks this phase of the encounter lasted another four or five minutes, but she cannot be sure. Time lost all meaning. This effect, plus the otherwise inexplicable 'blindness' of the many passers-by, is what I call the 'OZ Factor' and demonstrates that the UFO was essentially a subjective, consciousness phenomenon. At least it does so in my opinion.

Another remark uttered by Mrs G. emphasises this seemingly strange conclusion. She says that as they rounded the bend, passed over the bridge and drew alongside the object, it seemed to defy the laws of perspective. At no point did it alter its orientation towards them, although it remained stationary at all times. This either means it rotated in synchrony with the car's motion to maintain this positioning, or more likely, it was a projection onto the sky from their location and thus maintained this orientation with respect to them.

Yet the suggestion is that there was something there in the sky, since others saw it from various locations. But as the MoD report demonstrates at least some of these others saw it merely as a light. Whereas Mr and Mrs G and Dr. D. all agree that the object they saw was a huge triangle.

UNSATISFACTORY

It was hovering at a height guessed at as 1,000ft. The apex of the triangle pointed towards them, but it was angled in such a way that the underside was in view. A steady red light was in the centre and white light (also now steady) poured out from all sides.

This lit up the underside which appeared to be made of light metal. Structure and "rivets" within this were seen in the reflected glare. The size of the object was two or three times that of the full moon! Had such a thing really been there (in the way we understand the word 'real') half of Cardiff would have reported this major event.

We are led towards the suspicion that an initial stimulus was in the sky (e.g. a bright white light) but that somehow the perceptive systems of Mr and Mrs G and Dr. D overlaid the complex UFO image onto this, so far as their reality was concerned.

Of course that, as an answer is quite unsatisfactory. But there seems little else that makes much sense.

Dr. D. had to make his emergency call and so Mr G dropped his wife off at a spot nearby, close to their home. She dashed inside and brought her children to the door. But the UFO visible just three or four minutes before, was now nowhere to be seen.

CATALYST

Several interesting details emerged when the witness was probed more deeply. I wondered if she could be the "catalyst", as I have found that such an event tends to involve a witness who fits this description who is usually psychic. Mrs G. could fairly be called that. She recounted (with apparent surprise at my asking for such information) details of telepathic, precognitive and strange dream experiences. One recurrent childhood dream was of her seeing a large disc-shaped UFO on the ground, at the farm where she then lived. She would be walking up some steps and about to enter it when she awoke! This dream abduction memory is indeed remarkable.

However my confidence in ascribing to Mrs G the catalyst role was shaken when I learnt that her husband had sheepishly admitted the morning after the encounter that at about 5pm (i.e. two hours before the Llandaff sighting) he had seen what looked like the same object in the semi-light conditions and for a brief moment had observed its shape quite clearly. He had decided not to say anything when they saw it again until he found the courage to do so.

I was disappointed that the call of Cardiff central station was strong enough to make me leave this field in Llandaff with so many unanswered questions about the sighting. But it shows that even quite simple cases can in fact be very complex beneath the surface. It also illustrates that the pathetically inadequate investigation methods of the Ministry of Defence are, if anything, positively hindering correct evaluation of any case. Any conclusions they are forming about the UFO phenomenon, if it genuinely is based upon their admitted data, must be little more than pure guesswork built around thoroughly incomplete and possibly misleading evidence. It is hoped that such similar methods are not employed in matters concerned with our military defence!

As I said goodbye to the television crew they set off to plan field investigations with Paul Devereux at the site of the famous Egryn light encounters (see the book STARS AND RUMOURS OF STARS) by Kevin and Sue McClure or Paul's own EARTHLIGHTS). In the meantime they were off to the pub. I declined to join them as I had to go to East Anglia to help in a regression hypnosis experiment on the wife of a USAF officer from RAF Mildenhall, which was currently under BUFORA investigation by Dot Street (Details in a future issue). However, I did force a smile when they finally resolved the issue of which pub to go to. Their choice was in the end inevitable, I suppose THE GREEN MAN.

Albert Budden has been an Accredited Investigator for BUFORA since December, 1983, having become seriously interested in the UFO phenomenon in 1977, having read books on the subject for a number of years previously. He has travelled widely throughout western and eastern Europe, and has also worked with ESN/SSN children (and autistic). He took a teacher training course in London in 1973 and later taught physics and general science at Norwood Comprehensive School.

He is currently writing a book HIGH STRANGENESS (due for publication in 1985) of which this article is a brief summary.

Mr Budden will be giving the BUFORA lecture on March 2nd, 1985 on the overlap between apparitional phenomena and UFO-related events (URE).

Many encounters with UFOs and their associated entities contain aspects reported by witnesses of unusually dramatic changes of mood on the onset of the experience. This has been described as a feeling of irresistible calm or sense of tranquility, accompanied by a distinct feeling of isolation from their immediate surroundings. Even in the face of the most dramatic and bizarre encounters, witnesses report feeling unusually subdued and meditative, which is often accompanied by a loss of a sense of time. Jenny Randles terms this silent isolation and feeling of timelessness the "OZ FACTOR" effect.

There are distinct stages to the mood changes which are imposed upon witnesses. First, there is an overwhelming calmness and sense of 'oneness' with the UFO or entity; often leading to a loss of awareness both of surroundings, and, if there are other people nearby, of their activity. Coupled with the timelessness there is a period in the witness's memory which he or she comes to regard as "blank" and of which there is no recall - in fact a short and temporary amnesia. The initial tranquility may develop into a light trance-like state similar to day-dreaming, but where the witness feels that his or her attention is strongly fixed upon the UFO or entity. Consider the following reports of these stages of mood-change which were experienced by the witnesses as parts of a single continuous state:

- (1) "Tension lifted and taut nerves slackened. The atmosphere really had altered drastically and dramatically. It was simply as if the observer had forsaken his own world and trodden gingerly over the boundary of another and more blissful planet."
- (2) "Minds calm, we stood there merging with the shadows and looking towards the landing-sites of both UFOs in the gloom."
- (3) "I turned off the recorder and made a dash out into the field, went into a light trance state and asked higher intelligence to please make contact again."
- (4) "Again I went into a light trance state for what seemed to be a few minutes only ... I was awakened by my friends who thought I had gone. I must have been there for an hour."
- (5) "I moved into the main road to point out the object to someone passing, but it was as if time and the busy world had stopped. There was no one in sight near me, not even a car or bus. I got the impression that whatever it was, it did not wish to attract the attention

of anyone else. Yet after it had disappeared the traffic was again humming around me as busily as usual and people appeared in large numbers once again."

- (6) "And at that moment they caught sight of an enormous craft, so vast that it occupied the space between one mountain and another. It was shaped like a cigar, but with the ends cut off. It was 'orangy' in colour with a row of windows or openings along its side, and it seemed to emanate a feeling of peace and tranquility."
- (7) (Of a UFO) "She estimated that it was about half a mile away and positioned over some electricity pylons. As she stared she found herself becoming curiously isolated. The world was disappearing round her as she focussed her attention on this visitor from the unknown. It was almost as if she were being hypnotised by the light, forcing her eyes to fixate upon it. Time rushed by. Perhaps only five minutes, she could not gauge this accurately."
- (8) "I was so fascinated that, although quite frightened, I was unable to stop watching them."
- And when describing encounters with humanoids:
- (9) "She was very frightened, but suddenly realised that she was being calmed by the man's influence on her mind."
- (10) "It was a man about five feet eight inches in height; who came over and gently coaxed the motor-cyclist out of the ditch and then stroked his forehead to calm him. The alien's method of calming the fears of the witness reminds one of what the captain did to Betty Hill to relieve her pain
- In both cases we are dealing with a form of hypnosis of course."
- (11) "When you heard this voice in your head, what did it sound like? He only said, 'Please don't be afraid' and it sounded very mellow and warm."

It can be seen clearly, that in many (but not all) encounters a calming, meditative and hypnosis-like influence is at work which purposefully imposes this state of mind upon witnesses. Are the UFO entities concerned with the mental welfare of the witness and displaying a caring attitude by alleviating their fear? Or is there an ulterior motive? From examinations of encounter reports it would seem that there is.

Some recent scientific research into telepathy has been carried out by the government-funded Mind Science Foundation in San Antonio, USA. Similar work was also conducted by psychologists H.J. Eysenck and Carl Sargent. They have co-written a book which reports and correlates their findings with the American conclusions. On both sides of the Atlantic they were concerned with isolating those mental states which are conducive to telepathic performance. This was accomplished and an examination of their results showed startling facts. The mental states that they describe are closely similar to and in some aspects, exactly the same as, those that have been described in UFO witness reports. That is to say, that the hypnosis-like calming which encloses the witness in an isolating silence (the OZ FACTOR effect) match those conditions found to be conducive to telepathic reception. Consider the relevant extracts from Eysenck and Sargent's book EXPLAINING THE UNEXPLAINED.

"Relaxation, reduced attention to external events - a familiar list. There is considerable argument as to why hypnotised people show these features (telepathic ability) but such considerations can come later. The important thing at this stage is that hypnotised people do show relaxation and

reduced attention to the outside world. So, on the (sensory) 'noise reduction' model, we would expect hypnosis to be favourable to ESP.

They go on later to state:

"Of the 23 hypnosis experiments, 14 - over 60%, a huge proportion - have given significant evidence of ESP"

They also state:

"...the results from the experiments with hypnosis show a clear effect on ESP scoring. Honorton's judgement, after painstakingly reviewing all the published reports in 1977 is this: 'I believe the conclusion is now inescapable, and provides yet more support for the noise reduction model.'"

The basic idea behind the experiments to determine the conditions which are favourable for telepathic 'reception', is that we all have this ability to receive mental impressions from others, but most of the time their signals are 'drowned out' of our awareness by the sights and sounds of our immediate surroundings. This is termed 'sensory noise' and refers to all the information and stimuli we receive through our senses and not only sound. By reducing this 'sensory noise' a state is achieved whereby telepathic 'signals' or 'transmissions' are able to be received. The 'hypnotic induction procedures' mentioned include a calm state of mind and deep relaxation. It seems that not even a light hypnotic state is necessary to improve ESP ability, and it should be stated that the type of ESP tested for was the 'reception' of telepathically 'sent' images.

It can be seen from these findings that sensory isolation, or even merely reduced attention to external events, is conducive to telepathic receptivity. This is precisely what occurs when the UFO witness experiences the 'OZ FACTOR' effect. Light hypnosis was also found to be telepathically conducive and can be regarded as a more intense state of sensory isolation as hypnosis turns the mind inwards. This also occurs at the onset of many encounters, and the calming effect that is associated with it corresponds to the state of deep relaxation, so convincingly confirmed as being favourable to ESP. From these results, it is evident that the feelings of calmness that develops into a light hypnotic state in encounters, and the hypnotic state itself are both favourable to telepathic 'reception', and that these are two stages in the establishment of a mental condition which isolates the witness from any stimuli in his environment - a 'noise reduction model.'

From these conclusions, it is evident that telepathic effects play a central role at the onset of the encounter experience. This suggests that these encounters result from an initial telepathic stimulus or 'transmission' during a 'sensory noise' free state. Therefore, if 'sensory noise' has to be eliminated before the witness receives such a 'transmission', an ideal way of achieving this would be to induce some kind of 'blackout' where the witness is totally unconscious of his surroundings, which would effectively 'clear away' any external 'interference' (to use a radio analogy) leaving the 'channel' open for telepathic 'transmissions.' Eysenck and Sargent confirm that such a 'blackout' is telepathically conducive by stating: "Moreover, an astonishingly high proportion (some 50%) of reported experiences of spontaneous ESP occur when the 'receivers' are asleep." There are many reports of such 'blackouts' during UFO encounters.

CONCLUSIONS AND PREDICTIONS

If the premise that telepathy is involved at the onset of encounters is correct, a number of predictions can be made based

upon the occurrence of the essential 'sensory noise' free conditions. One such prediction has already been implied concerning the repeated occurrence of ideal telepathy-conductive conditions, namely:

- (1) If telepathic effects play a fundamental role in the occurrence of encounter experiences, we should expect to find the repeated occurrence of an ideal 'sensory noise' free state comparable to either a hypnotic state or unconsciousness similar to sleep where the senses of the witness are isolated or 'shut off' from external stimuli.

Confirmation

The 'OZ FACTOR' isolation/'blackout' effects fulfil this prediction.

- (2) We should expect to find a large proportion of encounters occurring in locations, contexts and time periods which are typically associated with reduced mental/physical activity and stimuli and/or inwardly directed thought or attention. That is to say, times and places of low 'sensory noise.'

Confirmation - Locations with low 'sensory noise.'

In Chapter 17 of "UFO STUDY" by Jenny Randles, it is stated in a section entitled "A Checklist of Discoveries": "True UFOs are seen more frequently in low density population areas." Typically, rural environments are not subject to the same levels of activity concentrated into small areas as urban contexts are. That is to say that rural environments offer a greater number of calm, 'sensory noise' free situations than towns or cities.

Confirmation - Time periods of low 'sensory noise'.

Jacque Vallee established a peak period for encounters of between midnight and 3 am. What is it about the early hours of the morning which facilitates low 'sensory noise' conditions? This period is generally free of noise in the literal sense (as opposed to the reception of all sensory stimuli such as lights etc). It is a time when human activity is at a minimum and is not pre-occupied with what, anthropologists would term 'survival activity.' However, having said this, and although these 'sensory noise' free conditions do prevail during the early hours of the morning, in terms of telepathic receptivity this aspect is relatively superficial in promoting encounters through telepathy. The most important aspect of this time period relates to the physiological conditions that prevail in individuals - namely sleep and the period of consciousness on awakening.

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FRS Vol.29. No.1. 1983.	Irene Granchi
ALIEN CONTACT	Jenny Randles
THE UFONAUTS	Hans Holzer

The following suggested bibliography was produced in conjunction with the UFO Study Course run at the Mayfield Centre, Putney, in June, 1984.

Titles were chosen for the following reasons: either their reference value, their erudition, their influence on thinking (e.g. FLYING SAUCERS HAVE LANDED) or a combination of these qualities.

The Association would be interested to know how you would improve on this list. What titles would you delete and substitute for others? Your views would be appreciated, even if you think the whole list should be deleted and rewritten, or perhaps you would wish to change only one or two titles at the most. A compilation of views and suggestions will appear in a future BULLETIN.

Your suggestions, please to LIONEL BEER, 15 Freshwater Court, Crawford Street, London, W1.

There are an estimated 3000-4000 UFO-related books and pamphlets in the English language alone. Much erudite material has been produced by university professors, retired US Air Force officers and members of some civilian UFO research societies. The selection of material for a short bibliography is of necessity therefore somewhat arbitrary. Tom Lind lists some 1100 English-language periodical titles in his catalogue. Some 200-250 UFO periodicals (i.e. titles) are available annually throughout the world, some appearing on a monthly basis. Since 1947 a staggering total of 50000 to 60000 books and magazines have appeared. Even this may be a modest estimate.

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- FSR - Flying Saucer Review - bi-monthly. FSR Publications Ltd., West Malling, Maidstone, Kent.

* IN PRINT

CASE REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

Listed below are all the case reports that I have received as being complete since I became Research Director in June, 1983. After they have been examined by members of the research department they will be placed in the BUFORA archives at Peterborough.

The reports are being used in three ways. Initially they are checked by the Director of Research to see if an explanation can be offered or if further information is required. At this point they are logged.

Mike Wootten is working on a research project to produce a catalogue of all case reports on a microcomputer. The current reports are passed onto Mike for entry onto the system. This basic index of reports will allow us to easily identify groups of reports for further research. For example, if someone wanted to do a project on reports of green objects seen in Essex, these reports could be quickly identified. Mike is working with Nigel Mortimer and Paul Fuller on this project.

In addition to the above two uses of the reports, they are being checked against reports of other short-lived phenomena to see if there is any correlation.

I wish to express my thanks and that of BUFORA's Council to all those members who have spent their time and money on investigating these cases on behalf of the Association.

Stephen Gamble,
Director of Research.

<u>BUFORA REF:</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>INVESTIGATOR</u>
54-008	Nov.1954	Carlisle	
57-501	Sept 57	Bedford	Bill Dillon
73-501	1973	New Zealand	Philip Taylor
77-901	Jan.1977	Amphill	Ken Phillips/Bill Dillon/M. Scott
77-902	Mar.1977	Chelmsford	Ron West
77-904	Jul.1977	East Bierley	Nigel Mortimer
77-905	Winter 77	Postwick	
78-504	26 Sept.78	Leyton	Mike Wootten
78-505	Sept/Oct.78	Blackrod	Peter Hough
79-272	23 Nov. 79	Speke	
80-111	12 Oct. 80	Pitlochry	Steuart Campbell
81-045	26 May 81	Pitsea	Andy Collins
81-068	?19 Feb. 81	Shipley	Nigel Mortimer
81-070	Aug/Sep.81		
82-003	24 Mar. 82	Barnet	Michael Lewis
82-012	7 Jan. 82	Harthill	Steuart Campbell
82-013	2 Mar. 82	Florida	Philip Taylor
82-014	16 Mar. 82	Dover	P. Harris
82-015	24 Mar. 82	Milton Keynes	Ken Phillips
82-016	27 Sep. 82	Glasgow	Steuart Campbell
82-017	Oct. 82	Edinburgh	Steuart Campbell
82-018	21 Oct. 82	Cowdenbeath	Steuart Campbell
82-022	22 Sep. 82	Seaford	Philip Taylor
82-024	22 Nov. 82	Mexborough	Walter Reid
82-025	12 Mar. 82	Heathrow	Steve Chetwynd
82-026	8 Jun. 82	Ramsey I.O.M.	Jenny Randles/Peter Warrington
82-027	1 Sep. 82	Coolock	Alan Carrigan

<u>BUFORA REF:</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>INVESTIGATOR</u>
82-028	22 Aug. 82	Sowerby Bridge	Nigel Mortimer
83-777	11 Mar. 83	Westfield	Philip Taylor
83-000	Various	Milton Keynes	Ken Phillips
83-001	13 Jan. 83	Littlehampton	Philip Taylor
83-004	25 Apr. 83	Bradford	Nigel Mortimer
83-006	11 Jul. 83	Potters Bar	Michael Lewis
83-007	12 Jan. 83	Bradford	Nigel Mortimer
83-008	Feb. 83	Hanslope	
83-009	21 Mar. 83	Paignton	Eric Morris
83-010	27 Jun. 83	Sheffield	David Clarke
83-011	13/14 Aug. 83	Shipley	Nigel Mortimer
83-012	10 Aug. 83	Gosforth	Richard Barnes
83-013	28 Aug. 83	Bangor NI	Derek Gilmour
83-014	30 Aug. 83	Ilkley	Nigel Mortimer
83-015	28 Sep. 83	Steeton	Nigel Mortimer
83-016	15 Oct. 83	Rotherham	Mick Hanson
83-017	11 Mar. 83	Westfield	Philip Taylor
83-018	26 May 83	Bradford	Nigel Mortimer
83-020	9 Jul. 83	London W1	Albert Budden
83-022	25 Sep. 83	Harwich	Michael Lewis
83-023	Oct. 83	London SW18	Albert Budden
83-025	14 Oct. 83	Orpington	Albert Budden
84-001	4 Jan. 84	Bletchley	Ken Phillips

Continued from page 18

NIC proceedings to demonstrate what we are doing and to open up our work for full discussion amongst members (YOUR VIEWS, MEMBERS, WOULD BE OF VALUE - EDITOR)

Evaluation of cases was considered and separate meetings to look at new cases was mooted. It was felt these would be time-consuming. A pilot project using postal circulation of a case (the report in NORTHERN UFO NEWS on a 1977 North Wales mid-air sighting has been chosen) was agreed. All AIs to consider and are urged to contribute comments/ideas/suggestions in writing either to their RIC for forwarding or direct to Jenny Randles.

The NIC reaffirmed its affiliation to the Code of Practice. Various negative comments made on this were considered unjustified. The NIC regarded it as essential.

Mike Wootten suggested all AIs contact their local Thompsons Directory. As BUFORA is a limited company we are entitled to a free entry in the Directory using the local AI's address and telephone number. This excellent idea is strongly urged on the NIC.

NEXT NIC MEETING 2pm-6pm. SATURDAY, MARCH 2nd, 1985

LONDON BUSINESS SCHOOL, SUSSEX PLACE, OUTER CIRCLE, REGENT PARKS, LONDON, NW1.

This is the venue for BUFORA's evening lectures. On March 2nd, at 6.30pm. the lecture will be given by Paul Devereux, author of EARTHLIGHTS, who will be putting forward evidence for this theories. It is hoped that a well-known ufologist will also be present to give the alternative case against. Should be a lively evening. All AIs are welcome to stay on and take part in the debate. One NIC meeting each year will be held in London to coincide with a lecture, and will be held outside London.

From: Nigel Mortimer RIC
North. Ilkley, West York-
shire.

PENNINE UFOs

Sir - I would like to comment on Stuart Campbell's letter (BUFORA Bulletin, February, 1984) on Jenny Randles' book THE PENNINE UFO MYSTERY (Granada, 1983).

Hilary Evans has already made his comments (which I echo) but would like to put forward my own opinion.

I am not surprised that Stuart feels that "there wasn't much cause to write the book in the first place" although I do not agree. He obviously comes to this conclusion because, like anyone living outside the area he does not have a full insight into the present UFO situation which is only a small part of a much larger and longer phenomenon. UFO-type events have been occurring in the Pennine regions in high numbers, for many years, with far too many high-strangeness cases for comfort, although documentation of such is sparse.

Recent research into cases from the area, shows that many many sightings have been "missed or simply ignored" over the past 10 years and maybe longer! I for one, find this inexcusable. In truth, some investigators were inadequate and put forward simple forms as excuses for case reports, or were so absorbed by their own egos that the little (often inaccurate) information they provided gave those not involved directly in the area, a false impression and formed a poor foundation on which to build serious research.

Jenny's book was the most appropriate way of showing just what was (and still is) going on in the Pennines. She has done what others should have done years ago - inform - I see nothing wrong in that.

Stuart claims that "there is no special Pennine UFO mystery" and I wonder if he might not be correct. If so we should bear in mind that if this proves true then something is seriously wrong with UFO investigations throughout the UK. I am sure that there is a Pennine UFO mystery, just as there is a national UFO mystery, and a world-wide UFO mystery, all are part of the same thing. What Stuart fails to see, with respect, is that the Pennine situation cries out (through its extraordinary high number of sightings and events) to be recognised - not ignored. Other areas of the UK contain the same phenomenon yet, they too are ignored. Those places, in Stuart's opinion then, are just the same as the Pennine region, not very special with regard to UFO experiences. I wonder? Maybe he would like to reflect upon the present situation regarding reported sightings from the Pennines compared to other areas of northern Britain - since April, 1983 90 per cent of all reports (see NORTHERN UFO NEWS issues 100-107) have been within the Pennine region alone!

Stuart's comment that Jenny "has hyped a mystery out of a rag bag of assorted incidents and rumours that appear to be largely unrelated to each other" is totally wrong in all respects. I need not inform him (or need I?) that being open-minded about the subject will help to find unexpected correlations within separate cases. He must remember that it is the information contained in such cases that suggest to us that there may be connections and not vice-versa.

Pennine UFOs and related events are a continuing progression, or so it seems to date. Unusual happenings have taken place in certain areas (moorland, Lancashire valleys, Yorkshire towns and cities) more than once and under very similar circumstances. Obviously, there are isolated events, but even so, they are part and

parcel of the Pennine UFO mystery.

Others working as part of the investigations and research team, in the Pennines, have expressed their own views about Jenny's book. They know how much hard work went into sorting through mountains of material, and they know that what she presented was genuine and factual. This was no "mere ramble through Jenny Randles' files" (as Stewart puts it) for in accusing her he also dismisses the many, many hours of hard work, undertaken in regional investigations.

Instead of spending so much time revelling in the praises of his success with the Livingston case (albeit excellent in content) I would like him to tell us what kind of UFO situation there is in his part of the country - Scotland. Is there a continuing UFO situation? If so, where are all the reports and information? Certainly not in the various newsletters, bulletins, journals etc.

Stewart does not need to prove his fine capabilities in UFO research; but he must not forget that others are interested in the UFO phenomenon, no matter where it is taking place and especially if, as in the present Pennine mystery, cases are highly unusual and very frequent.

I am sure that Jenny realised this, and knew that there were others who needed to know about the Pennine UFO mystery.

From. J.S. Krogh. Acting
Managing Director, Norwegian
Institute of Scientific
Research and Enlightenment.
(NIVFO). Harstad, Norway.

Hessdalen Sightings

Sir - In your article about the Hessdalen sightings (BUFORA BULLETIN, February, 1984) you state: "There is no firm evidence to link the reflections to cold and warm air inversions."

In NIVFO's recently published report on the sightings Hessdalsrapporten, we have proved this statement to be incorrect. During an expedition our Institute made to Hessdalen from March to May, 1984, we found from meteorological information that air in-

versions had probably caused a lot of the sightings. Plasma lights are also known to have been observed in Hessdalen and surrounding areas.

Other sightings may have been caused by the sun, stars, planets, aeroplanes, cars or other vehicles and flashing lights. NIVFO regards the Hessdalen case as cleared up.

Hessdalsrapporten will be translated into German, and probably later also into English. Copies may, of course be ordered from NIVFO.

Odd-Gunnar Røed, Project Co-ordinator and Treasurer, Project Hessdalen, comments:

We all know that several possibilities exist to explain the Hessdalen phenomenon.

We also know that in order to explain it we must do a lot of field measuring with highly sophisticated instruments and not just to look at the climate, letting a few balloons loose, checking the temperature and measuring snowdepths with a broomstick, which I understand is all NIVFO has done. Perhaps Jan Krogh will correct me if I am wrong. Most of NIVFO's time was spent indoors, but the phenomenon is undoubtedly outdoors. Project Hessdalen had a fortnight on site with 24 hour a day sky-watch; this gave results, several pictures were taken and we had a lot of readings on such instruments, as radar, a geiger-counter, a magnetometer, a seismograph, a spectromanalyser, an IR viewer and a lot of cameras, some with a special filter to measure light spectra. We also had video-cameras and super 8mm film. This material is now being analysed, and a report will be ready soon. Project Hessdalen does not look for one special answer in Hessdalen, we keep our eyes, ears and instruments ready for any answer and answers.

The phenomenon started in December, 1981, and we know that there have been some sightings in earlier years as well, but not more than the number of sightings in the rest of Norway.

Why this sudden increase?

Local persons claim to have seen "objects" as close as 30m. Shall we call them liars? Or shall we tell them that they have not seen what they claim, but plasma or stars. I am not surprised that the population in Hessdalen would not have anything to do with the "scientists" from NIVFO.

The objects which are claimed to have been seen have been described as metallic-looking with a red light at each end.

Let me say that we in Project Hessdalen take this as a statement; we have no proof that it really happened, but we also have experienced things up there that we cannot explain as "natural", and, by the way, what is natural? Let us keep an open mind and hope we can have solid proof of what is going on in Hessdalen during this coming winter when we shall be there doing some further research.

From: M.R. Wootten.
RIC East Region. Leyton,
London, E17.

Regressive Hypnosis

Sir - Harry Harris's September, 1984 BUFORA lecture on alleged contact cases dealt with investigations which included hypnotically regressing witnesses in order to 'unlock' the amnesia of the experience through which they went.

All the cases presented had basically the same scenario i.e. taken to a 'spaceship' and examined. This would indicate that we are, indeed, being visited by aliens, but only if you take the 'evidence' at face value and accept that hypnotic regression is accurate.

Most of the evidence was convincing, but there was one part which brought grave doubts to my mind. That concerned the validity of hypnotic regression and the interpretation of the evidence taken from the witness whilst under.'

In discussing the case Mr Harris explained that the witness was difficult to regress. She had related an experience in which she was in a room which contained a

large swimming pool. In the pool there was a dolphin which she "felt" was ill. On the other side of the room there was a man dressed in a one piece jump suit who touched the animal. The witness concluded that the dolphin recovered.

This story is bizarre to say the least. But Mr Harris discounts it, and "debunked" it as just a mental block covering a fearful and distressing experience which the witness was too scared to relate.

This explanation is not good enough. Mr Harris does not hide the fact that he is a 100 percent "nuts and bolts" ETH man. This is fine, but do not such strongly held views colour his objectivity? You cannot throw out of the window a piece of evidence and deny its relevance just because it does not fit the theoretical jig-saw you are working on.

I am no psychologist and I could be completely wrong in my estimation of the accuracy of hypnotic regression; but in this subject, no piece of evidence is irrelevant and we cannot pick and choose what is good and what is bad. It is all evidence and should be researched collectively.

From: J.P. Timmerman.
Chairman, Center for UFO
Studies, Evanston, Illinois,
USA.

Effective Rebuttal

Sir - I hope you will permit me to publicly express the gratitude of Dr Hynek, Mimi Hynek and those of us at the Center for UFO Studies who have worked closely with them for years to Jenny Randles for her thoughtful and most effective rebuttal of thoughtless comments by others suggesting that Dr Hynek has been serving as a "CIA agent plant" in the field of ufology. These charges are, of course, ridiculous.

In addition, we appreciate her reminding those who may have forgotten and informing those who might not know that Dr. Hynek has twice seen and on one occasion photographed a still-unidentified flying object. As for publishing accomplishments, besides the three excellent books bearing

Dr. Hynek's name, anyone familiar with the INTERNATIONAL UFO REPORTER, the most widely-read American periodical on the UFO phenomenon, known that Dr. Hynek and associates of the Center for UFO Studies have investigated and continue to investigate a large number of important sighting reports which the Center publishes in a variety of material valuable to serious students in this subject.

We hope Jenny Randles is properly appreciated for her heroic accomplishments in the examination and critical evaluation of developments on the British ufological scene and elsewhere throughout the world. Her excellent credits more than offset the liabilities of some too frequently published statements by those who are uninformed regarding the subject and the scholars of ufology.

From: Dr. Alexander Keul. Salzburg, Austria

Sir - As a reply to NIC criticism on the Anamnesis project, I would like to clear up the following points as I feel a rational discussion is needed.

The Anamnesis is an Additional technique especially suitable for cases where physical data are lacking (e.g. the Northampton Cell repeater) or physical investigations have yielded inconclusive results. It was never intended that "psychologists should now take over the business." For NIC members who find it strange that as Austrian should analyse British data - I hold a PhD in meteorology and astronomy of Vienna University and have just finished my second doctorate thesis about psychology of the unconscious at the institute of Professor Revers (leading European expert on the German version of the Thematic Apperception Test) at University of Salzburg. My findings may, or even should be checked by Dr. Scott or Dr. King to start a fruitful discussion instead of "unintelligible expert work." I invite NIC members who want to state rational points of criticism about the Anamnesis approach to send their contributions to Jenny Randles or Ken Phillips who will pass them on.

ASSISTANCE REQUIRED

Mrs Dot Street, BUFORA's Accredited Investigator in East Anglia, is still actively engaged in researching and collating data on the Rendlesham Forest incident of December, 1980. She desperately requires help to share the work-load with a BUFORA member in the area (Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Essex) preferably one with a vehicle. This case is one of the most fascinating to have occurred in the UK and anyone wishing to help Mrs Street will find themselves closely involved in one of the classic UFO cases.

A member, or members, wishing to help should contact her on Lowestoft (0502) 84606.

JOB VACANCIES WITHIN THE
RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

I am seeking two enthusiastic members who would be able to help me with the administration of the Research Department. Both these posts are honorary, but a small budget is available to offset essential expenses. Applicants should have access to their own typewriter and have a reasonable standard of written English. Apart from that the only other qualification is enthusiasm. These jobs will offer you the opportunity to meet and correspond with other people interested in UFOlogy.

RESEARCH MEMBERSHIP

Over the years BUFORA receives many offers of help with research from different members. Often it is not possible to use these offers immediately. It will be the function of the post holder to reply to members offering help, to find their areas of interest and either suggest existing projects with which the member might help, or to recommend to the Director of Research that a new project be started which makes use of the member's specific skills. The post holder will be invited to join the research committee.

RESEARCH SECRETARY

As Director of Research there are many routine office jobs that I have. I am now seeking someone to assist me with these. The jobs include such things as arranging meetings of the research committee and of the JTAP editorial board and replying to enquiries for information. In addition I would like to start properly minuting the research and JTAP meetings.

Anyone interested in helping with either of these tasks is invited to write to me at the research headquarters, the address of which can be found on the inside of the front cover of this issue of the BULLETIN, or to contact me at one of the lecture meetings. Any additional offers of help to work on research projects would also be welcomed.

STEPHEN GAMBLE

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Change of Address must be notified to the Membership Secretary and the Chairman of the Association immediately it is known. If this is not done it is not possible to guarantee continuity of publications and it is not always easy to replace those publications which members have failed to receive.

BUFORA PUBLICATIONS

- SPECIAL OFFER

The following publications are offered at a special rate to members. Applications to Arnold West, 16 Southway, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, together with your cheque/PO for the appropriate amount.

CLOSE ENCOUNTER AT LIVINGSTON

64pp Large format. £1.50 (plus 50p p&p). (Previously £3)

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VEHICLE INTERFERENCE PROJECT Geoffrey Falla. 102pp. Case reports. £1.50 (plus 50p p&p) (Previously £4).

21st ANNIVERSARY MEMORABILIA

Lionel Beer also has some copies left of the four page leaflet produced to mark BUFORA's 21st anniversary, outlining the Association's history, together with some of the special red lapel badges, overprinted with the Association's logo. Send two 13p stamps (10p for each extra badge ordered) to Lionel Beer at 15 Freshwater Court, Crawford Street, London W1N 1NS. For the leaflet send two 10p stamps. For the badge and leaflet send 30p in stamps.

FOUR assorted BUFORA BULLETINS/ JOURNALS (£1 incl. p&p)

PUBLICATION DATES

Members are asked to note that the new publication dates for the BULLETIN and JTAP during 1985 will be:

THE BULLETIN

January,
May
July
December

JTAP

March
September

Because of the change in dates it has not been possible on this occasion to produce both a December, 1984 and a January, 1985 issue. This edition is, therefore, a joint December/January issue and contains slightly more editorial pages.

Council reports and summaries of BUFORA's evening lectures, September, 1984 to March 1985 will appear in the May issue of the BULLETIN.

PLEASE NOTE: That there were two errors in the numbering of the BULLETIN during 1982-83. That for March, 1983 did not contain a number on the front. It should have been 07. There was no actual number 08. The sequence wrongly moving to 09 (June, 1983).

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