

UFO

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A DAY OF



ABDUCTIONS...

Santilli Q & A

Philip & Sue Mantle take the man himself to task

Playing the Percentages

Rob Bull examines the IFO numbers game

Investigations Diary

The very latest UFO cases from around the UK and beyond...

Research Review

The regular feature that reviews the work of BUFORA's Research Department

UFO Snapshots

from the files of Ken Phillips

plus

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Alien Aftershock

by Carla Turner Ph.D

a BUFORA publication

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Witness Confidentiality

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

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

The British UFO Research Association Ltd (by guarantee)

Founded 1964. Registered office: 16 Southway, Burgess Hill, Sussex, RH15 9ST Registered in London 123499244. Incorporating the London UFO Research Association (founded 1959) and the British UFO Association (founded 1962).

Aims

1. To encourage, promote and conduct unbiased scientific research of unidentified flying object (UFO) phenomenon throughout the United Kingdom.
 2. To collect and disseminate evidence and data relating to UFOs.
 3. To co-ordinate UFO research throughout the United Kingdom and co-operate with others engaged in such research throughout the world.
- membership is open to all who support the aims of the association and whose application is approved by the executive committee.
- Member societies include the UK's oldest group, BFSB, 3 Orchard Road, Coal Pit Heath Bristol, Avon, BS17 2PB. Associate groups include the Northamptonshire UFO Research Centre and Skyscan.



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Editorial

Data Sharing

The Benefits to British Ufology

"Knowledge is of two kinds. We know a subject ourselves, or we know where we can find information upon it."

-Samuel Johnson

Are we in Britain really serious about objective UFO research? Are we ever going to get right to the bare bones and work constructively together?

I'm doubtful.

We have all wasted many, many years of endeavour, simply because there is a reluctance to share information, a lack of trust.

BUFORA boasts a case archive totalling over 6000 reports. That's a drop in the ocean compared to the total number of case files compiled by individuals and local groups across the UK.

Imagine the pool of data we would all have if this massive collection of evidence came together, was properly archived and added to a computer database.

Unfortunately it is a fact of life within ufology that this would never happen. Case reports are viewed similarly to stamp collections and prizes to be personally cherished and guarded beyond measure.

A prime example was the debate many years ago of who 'owned' the case files of the defunct 1980's group UFOIN. I'm not too bothered now about the rights and wrongs of this example. Nevertheless, the arguments over who was to be the custodian of just 100 case reports are, on reflection, laughable.

If one puts aside the important issue of witness confidentiality for the moment, there is no reason why we should not have a national depository for reports and evidence. Logistically, this would be a breeze. With dedication and determination, anything is possible.

BUFORA is making the positive move towards this. In general the BUFORA archive has been accessible and with the advent of computer technology, we will be able to supply any researcher with a 22 field summary of every case we have on file.

No one will be barred from this information and there are no pre-conditions. We just hope that others will follow our lead.

Eventually, even complete case histories (excluding witness information) will be available in computer form.

I personally want to see BUFORA vigorously supporting the local effort, so the local effort can support BUFORA with the national networking of data, evidence and information.

Anybody with me on this ideal?

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COVER ILLUSTRATION
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LOGO BY JONESY



Want your own Roswell Alien?

Well, for a mere \$1,695 you can.

The tasteful life size replica illustrated at the top of our News section in its own 'lighted acrylic chamber' can be yours. Be the envy of the neighbours, impress your friends. An 'Alien in a Chamber', an absolute must for your living room.

News

Edited by Mike Wootten

Roswell Footage Update

Ray Santilli is apparently compiling a volume to sequel his Raw Uncut Footage effort.

Allegedly, more Roswell footage is to in the process of transfer from raw state, according to Santilli on American television recently.

The Roswell rumour mill claims that Rank Video distribution has been accused of promoting this footage. An accusation that they have since denied.

Santilli has also been accused of working with Channel 4 model makers Lumberg and Dickenson along with Robert Irving, to create the carved up entity. Lumberg has strenuously denied these allegations and it has to be said that the claims are pure speculation with no evidence to support them.

Recently, in a Quest International interview, Timothy Good, whose new book *Beyond Top Secret* (to be published in May this year), stated that the film was "bogus". He added that it could have been filmed in 1994 using a video camera.

In another recent interview, Ray Santilli claims to have spent 'millions' on investigating the footage. Wow, what did you get for that and can we see the results. Please.

Blockbuster Video and Century Fox have sold and loaned 250,000 copies of the footage in the USA alone.

Chris Carter has planned an X-Files episode in season three loosely based on the Roswell footage theme.

Mulder discovers the footage of an apparent real alien autopsy. No doubt to save time and money the same set, props and SFX dummies will be used!

Jonathon Dillon, Mike Wootten

BUFORA Makes Donations

After a successful financial year, BUFORA directors agreed that the Association should be able to financially support worthwhile causes that enhance and progress British UFO research.

At the November Council meeting, it was agreed to make two donations. Firstly, £150.00 to Shane Nolan's UFONet Bulletin Board which has made a staggering contribution to British ufology by distributing UFO related information at lightning speed.

Secondly, a smaller donation of £50.00 was agreed to go to John Holman's British Operation Right to Know. John's campaign to release UFO documents held by the MoD is a cause worth supporting.

Although BUFORA has not got a bottomless pit of money, the Association does want to use the profits made at the successful August '95 Congress to support research and investigation. And not just R&I activities within the Association, but on a wider scale to benefit other groups and ufology in the UK as a whole.

Paranormal Magazines Explosion

With the advent of the X-Files, and maybe the Roswell footage, the British public have gone paranormal crazy. And some key magazines are expanding with this growth.

- The British edition of the Australian based *Nexus* Magazine has now gone newsstand in the hope of reaching a circulation of 30,000 plus.

- *Fortean Times* will be going monthly from April 1996, as John Brown Publishing has seen sales increase rapidly over the last 12 month.

- *Encounters* magazine is going from strength to strength according to its editor, Richard Forsyth.

- At the grassroots level the Wales Federation of Independent Ufologists have launched a new magazine focusing on UFO reports and research in Wales.

For more information contact the WFIU at PO Box 43, Rhyl, Clwyd, LL18 1YW.

The Northern Anomalies Research Organisation (NARO) have also launched a quarterly magazine called *NARO Minded*. This new journal will cover all aspects of the paranormal, with material from Jenny Randles, Peter Hough and the rest of the well-respected NARO team.

Contact the magazine's editor Stephen Mera at 3 Paignton Drive, Ashton on Mersey, Sles Cheshire M33 5HJ for more information.

And finally, David Duhig of Ark Soundwaves tells me they are to launch a new magazine called *UFO Reality*. David hopes that he will be able circulate 12,000 copies of its launch edition to not only UK outlets but to the US, Australia and Canada. Ark Soundwaves are at PO Box 1395, Glastonbury, Somerset BA6 9FE.

BUFORA's Internet Investment Puts Other Groups On-Line

One of BUFORA's main aims in entering cyber-ufology was to encourage other UFO and paranormal groups onto the Internet. With donations of free World Wide Web (WWW) space, BUFORA has been able to put several groups 'on line'.

The first to benefit was the *Association of Scientific Study of Anomalous Phenomena - ASSAP* (URL <http://dSPACE.dial.pipex.com/town/square/ee65/index.htm>). BUFORA's WWW space donation allowed ASSAP's (and BUFORA's Inter-group Liaison Officer) Phil Walton, to set up an impressive site to present ASSAP's objective work and activities.

Other groups to benefit have been the *Wales Federation of Independent Ufologists* (URL <http://www.citadel.co.uk/citadel/eclipse/futura/bufora/mise/local/wales.htm>), the *Northamptonshire UFO Research Club* (URL <http://dSPACE.dial.pipex.com/town/square/el82/nuforc.htm>) and the *Cambridge UFO Group* (URL <http://dSPACE.dial.pipex.com/town/square/el82/cufog.htm>).

This is only a start. BUFORA hopes to encourage other groups to be represented on the WWW. To get your group on the Internet is simple - you do not even need to have a computer! Just put together the details of your group including the following:-

- Name of group
- Short name
- Contact name
- Address & postcode
- Tel/Fax number
- E-mail address.
- Date of inception
- Type of group
- Physical area covered;

plus any other information, like whether you investigate and archive cases or anything else that you think is relevant. Send your material to Philip Walton, 22 West Street, Bromley, Kent BR1 1RJ. Tel (0181) 313 1556, Email ghost@dial.pipex.com.

And remember we will not just list your group, we can supply you with further free web space to highlight your activities and investigations to the world!

UFO Filmed above Nellis AFB

The top secret Nellis Air Force Base was apparently buzzed by unidentified lights putting the base on full alert.

A remote controlled video camera which sits on the perimeter fence of the base apparently filmed four globes of light travelling towards the air base.

The US TV show *Sightings* aired the footage which shows the balls of light merging and parting whilst hovering at

the edge of the installation.

Changes in Abductees

In his recent book *The Omega Project* Kenneth Ring, PhD discusses actual physical changes in people who have experienced UFO and/or NDE experiences, including:

- *Physical sensitivities to light, sound, alcohol, etc
- *Physiological functioning, e.g. body temperature and blood pressure
- *Psychoenergetic functioning, e.g. overall energy level, sleep patterns and

- unusual energetic sensations
- *Emotional functioning, e.g. mood fluctuations
- *Expanded mental awareness, e.g. increased information processing capacity and awareness of alternate realities
- *Paranormal functioning, e.g. telepathy

His in-depth study revealed that "...there appears to be a generalized sensitivity effect stemming from extraordinary encounters."

Source: *UFONet*



It is with great sadness to report that after a protracted struggle against cancer, Karla Turner passed away on 9th January 1996.

Her research of abduction cases spanned many years and her dedicated work will be missed.



Karla Turner

Compulsions in the Aftermath of Alien Abduction Experiences

Karla Turner, PhD

My friend Leah Haley recently wrote an insightful article about "ufology's dirty little secrets," focusing in part on the surprising number of people involved in this field who end up in a divorce court. There are other "little secrets," too, such as the high percentage of women abductees with gynaecological problems, and the variety of sexual experiences, often debasing and abusive, that abductees have endured during their alien encounters.

It's understandable, perhaps, that most people wouldn't feel comfortable openly discussing these matters, for they are extremely intimate. But since they are indeed a part of this phenomenon, they should be known and taken into consideration as we try to discover more about the abductors and their covert agenda.

So, too, should we be aware of another frequent component in the abduction scenario, which is the fact that many people find themselves suddenly under powerful compulsions of various sorts. For the most part, unfortunately, these compulsions often cause disturbances of a very intimate nature in their lives and thus, like the sexual aspects, are rarely made public as part of the overall data record.

Reports on abduction research have included information on certain types of compulsions, namely the temporary urges that are associated with a specific abduction event. People report the sudden impulse to drive to an isolated area, for instance, or to take a different route than their usual path, and then they are abducted from that location. Since we know that the aliens are able to take people from any location - off crowded freeways, out of apartment complexes in large cities, for example, or in the middle of parties - there doesn't seem to be a strategic need for the targeted abductee to be in a particular spot, so the purpose behind such

manipulation isn't clear.

Similarly, in many cases we have evidence that other people who are with a targeted abductee have also been compelled to leave the abductee alone, apparently so that an encounter with that person can occur. In one recent case I've investigated, involving a husband, wife and eight-year-old child, the husband had a sudden compulsion to leave his wife, who worked nights, sleeping in the morning, and to go fishing. The location he was compelled to find was at quite a distance from his home, and he said that after he reached the spot and began fishing, he suddenly "came to" and had no idea why he'd gone to that spot in the first place.

"I don't even like to fish!" he told me, bewildered by his own actions, "and I had already planned a long list of things to do at home that morning."

He immediately returned home, only to find that his wife had experienced a 'bedroom encounter' at mid-morning that resulted in a puncture wound on her ear and two large bruises, identical in shape, on her thighs. The clock on her bed was flashing, which only occurs when there has been a power outage, but no other electronic devices in the house were affected.

The husband had been compelled to leave his wife alone, yet we know from hundreds of other reports that the aliens can easily 'turn off' anyone else who may be present when they decide to abduct someone. So again, there doesn't seem to be a necessity for the husband to have removed himself from the vicinity, especially when he and his wife had already had abduction events in their home when the entire family was present.

What do we learn from these compulsions? For one thing, the aliens can exert great control over our actions, thoughts and desires,

contrary to our best interests. The mechanisms by which they control us may not be clearly understood, but they do exist.

In fact, the evidence from a handful of abduction reports indicates that in some cases the targeted persons, rather than being transported out of the house through the walls or ceiling by unknown means, are actually compelled to get up, leave the bed, and go outside under their own power - although certainly not under their own volition - or to open doors and windows to allow the aliens to enter. In one extraordinary case, a female abductee, while driving to the grocery store, was suddenly compelled to drive instead to a military installation miles from her home. She was allowed inside and was taken to several military personnel she recognised from previous night-time encounters involving both alien and human. Another woman reported waking in the middle of the night and feeling compelled to open a window in order to let aliens enter. But again, such entries and exits aren't strategically necessary for abduction to occur, so they must be serving some additional purpose, if there's any logic at all to alien activity.

The compulsions discussed here, however, are of a different nature. Instead of being part of a specific abduction event, these usually occur in the aftermath of conscious alien contact and affect the abductee's life in a number of different ways.

What kinds of compulsions are reported by abductees? The range is wide, from romantic obsessions and drugs to major changes in lifestyle and personal habits. The following examples, in which identifying details have been omitted to protect the privacy of the abductees involved, will illustrate.

Two men in their late thirties, who were good friends, both became inexplicably obsessed with a woman they met in the course of their involvement with an abduction support group. One man was married with grown children, while his friend was divorced. The woman was of another race with which the two men rarely interacted socially, yet upon first meeting her a strong obsession took control of them both. For her part, the woman encouraged them both, trying to keep each man from knowing that she was intimately involved with the other. Of course, such a situation soon exploded in their faces, and the result was that good friends stopped seeing each other and, as they were the core of a support group, it too fell apart.

For some abductees, the compulsions have focused on public figures, often celebrities, and in most cases these abductees don't have a history of such 'fan' obsessions. While there usually is no personal contact in these situations, the compulsions do cause the victims to pursue their idols from afar and distract them from their regular relationships. In many of these instances, the abductees have 'dream' encounters with the celebrities,

dreams which often have the earmarks of an externally induced 'virtual-reality' event, and the subsequent emotions the dreamers experience are indeed very strong.

I am familiar with these feelings from my own experience with such an obsession, one that overwhelmed me rather instantaneously, with a certain musician. And I am one of the four identical cases that have come to light focusing on this same entertainer, in which we all had compelling dream-encounters with the musician. When one of these cases was explored through hypnosis, the image of the celebrity dissolved and revealed instead the figure of a reptoid alien. Similar cases are known involving other celebrities, politicians and even religious figures.

Much less 'romantic' was the compulsion experienced by a man who reported a consciously recalled abduction to researcher Barbara Bartholic. He was abducted while travelling on an interstate highway. After the event, for the next several days, he was overwhelmed by the compulsion to have sex with everybody he saw, be it man, woman or child, and he even reported having such desires for animals he encountered. Fortunately, the man was able to resist the compulsions, but he said it took all his strength to do so.

Some reported compulsions are quite unique, such as I described in TAKEN: INSIDE THE ALIEN-HUMAN ABDUCTION AGENDA, in which Anita, when she was in her twenties, experienced a physically real rape by a "Nordic" intruder she had first encountered as a young girl. Paralyzed and unable to resist while it occurred - and while two other "Nordic" males watched - she reported the compulsion to use a tampon every day for the next several years. She said that although intellectually she realised a tampon wouldn't stop the rapist, nonetheless she was compelled to use one in the vain hope she could avoid another such encounter.

The urge to masturbate, another of ufology's 'little secrets' is frequently reported. It has turned up in cases involving children as young as 5 years old, and in some instances, where the people are compelled to masturbate repeatedly, they have said they are aware of some unseen alien presence at these times, observing them in their actions. It is sad to note that there are also reports of abductees with these obsessions who have been compelled to change their sexual orientation or actually give up all human contact after their experiences.

As well as romantic and sexual compulsions, there are many reports of sudden desires to make radical changes in profession and geographical location on the part of abductees. Certain areas in the United States are recurrent targets of desire, including the mountainous areas of Washington, the Rockies, northern New Mexico and the

Ozark Mountains in Arkansas and Missouri. I have interviewed abductees who reported giving up successful careers in order to move to these areas, even though it meant taking low-paid jobs and suffering financially. In most of these cases, the people have not been able to tell me why they made the moves or what, in fact, they are hoping to find or to do in their new locations.

I have also been the target of this type of compulsion, awaking early one morning in August 1989 to find myself overwhelmed with the notion that I must immediately get my family out of the metropolitan area where we were living. The feeling were so strong that I worked out an 'escape plan' with a common rendezvous point where we could all meet, and a signal was agreed upon that, when given, would direct us to reach the meeting point within 15 minutes and be ready to flee.

Although I recalled no specific contact or encounter in which this information was given to me, I awoke that morning 'knowing' without doubt that I was supposed to move to a sparsely populated area where I could live on at least 20 acres supplying us with fuel (timber) and an independent water source that would allow my family and friends to survive some upcoming crisis situation. My husband and I then packed the trunk of our car with every piece of survival equipment we could think of - although neither of us before this time had ever felt any survivalist tendencies - and this equipment stayed in the car for over two years; the time it took us to make the move to a rural setting that fulfilled the demands of this compulsion. Once we moved into the home we built, the compulsion disappeared. And here we still reside, as do many abductees, in remote areas, without a clue as to the nature of the crisis we were supposed to be escaping.

The motivation behind these and other compulsions, in fact, is rarely clear to the people suffering through them. In the case of Jane, whose experiences I reported in TAKEN, she went through a strange compulsion in the weeks just before an intense spate of UFO sightings, often with other witnesses, and partially conscious alien encounters. Jane began to feel very strongly that someone was watching her secretly, although she never saw any physical sign of such an observer. At one point, the feeling caused her to call the police to search her area. And the feelings were compelling enough to move her to carrying a gun at all times; something she had never done. After she became aware of the alien activities, there was a time when she suddenly grew very frightened about the safety of her pet dog, to the point where she would pin a note to her clothes at bedtime, asking the 'visitors' not to hurt her dog. Consciously, she didn't remember any encounter involving her beloved pet, but under hypnosis she recalled

a time when an alien being had physically hurt the dog. And I've listened to several abductees tell of threats made by aliens to kill pets if their owners tried to talk about their experiences. In some of these cases, the pets have indeed been killed or died under suspicious circumstances. Perhaps it is some similar feeling of threat from the aliens that has so compelled several abductees to refuse to have children.

It should be noted that not all compulsions reported by abductees cause them personal problems. There are numerous instances of abductees suddenly compelled to give up smoking or drinking, and frequently people who were previously meat eaters say they have had to become vegetarian, although again, they can't really explain why they made the change. I am one of those who found I could no longer eat meat, and for me the change was literally overnight. In early November 1991, I woke up one morning and discovered that I could not swallow any meat I tried to eat. It stuck in my throat and I became extremely nauseated. The day before, however, I had eaten a cheeseburger, as I often did, with no trouble at all. It is now the middle of 1994, and I still cannot tolerate meat of any sort.

While giving up smoking and making changes in diet can be beneficial, many of the other sudden changes have proven to be physically and emotionally harmful to abductees. As we've seen, people go through sexual turmoil and chaos in their personal relationships which inflict great emotional damage, sometimes permanently. And in several instances I have known abductees who have been living quite sane, regular, healthy lives to suddenly get sucked into a downward spiral from compulsive abuse of sex, drugs and alcohol.

The compulsions that many people endure tell us certain things about the abduction agenda and processes. Most immediately, they evince the controlling nature of alien-human interactions, with all of the control coming from the aliens. We also see that the majority of these obsessions elicit strong negative emotions from the abductees, and this may be related to reports of scenarios in which abductees say that their emotional energy has been somehow 'harvested' or taken. 'Emotional vampires' is the term one abductee has used.

Furthermore, the nature of these compulsions is often debasing to the abductee's self-image and psychic well-being. Victims of human sexual assault are known to suffer a variety of emotional problems afterwards, including shame and a painful sense of guilt, because our sexuality is so basic a part of our identity. The same is true for victims of sexually obsessive behaviour.

When our natural desires are distorted and twisted, whether by event or environment, that distortion extends into other aspects of our character and self-image. So could the purpose behind these alien-imposed compulsions be aimed at programming us to



From the film *Communion* reprinted with acknowledgements to Vestron UK Ltd.

think of ourselves in certain ways? Or to produce certain strong and negative emotions that they are able to 'gather' and use? Judging by the fruits of these actions, such questions are necessary.

And what purposes may lie behind the motivations to change locations, professions and even marital partners? Are we being programmed for some future scenario, as so many of us have come to feel, based on other experiences? If so, then this scenario must involve an earthly, physical agenda, if the place we reside and the person we live with are relevant to the activity. The much-professed theory that the aliens are here for our spiritual benefit just doesn't match up with the results of much of their interactions with humans, so perhaps we'd better think again, with more caution and scepticism, about the goals of the programming we undergo at alien hands.

The term 'programming' is not used lightly. Most abductees are first taken as small children, and that is when the indoctrination processes begin. The abductors repeatedly tell the children that they belong to the aliens, not to their earthly parents. They use a variety of methods to bind the children to them emotionally, so that in spite of whatever traumatic physical procedures they may undergo, the children grow up feeling a bond of love to their abductors.

Also, part of the programming includes reinforcing the ideas that we should not be attached to our bodies, that we should devalue our physical existence, and that our 'true home' is not on this planet. In doing this, the aliens are adept at employing metaphysical concepts as well as traditional religious imagery. As I reported in TAKEN, an

abductee named Pat was at one point shown a body that was identical to hers and told this body was 'for the resurrection' - a future time when Jesus would come to Earth with spaceships. She had also witnessed the image of Jesus (blond-haired and blue-eyed, by the way, in spite of the ethnic characteristics of the original Jesus) beaming down into her bedroom and telling her that the Greys surrounding her bed belong to him.

Such programming and indoctrination has led many abductees into a compulsive attachment to their abductors and into feeling essentially isolated from their family and friends throughout their lives. In countless instances I have heard abductees make these statements: "I was always different from my family." "I never fit in with the rest of society." "I feel that my real home is not on this planet." "I know that the aliens have done many things to hurt me, but I still love them more than I love my own family". But almost never have I heard the abductees question the source or origin of these feelings and attachments.

One abductee who has actually been able to question her feelings is Polly, whose case is also reported in TAKEN. "Emotionally and deep in my mind," Polly told me, "I trust certain ones of the aliens more than anything else in the universe. And I have been confronting bit by bit the evidence that they made me feel this way for their purposes, to fulfil their agenda, not for my own good."

Programming, indoctrination and brainwashing are not just acts of human agents: the aliens have shown themselves to be masters of such techniques, which may well be why they start abducting humans in their early childhood, when they are most vulnerable to these methods of mind control. And the abductees are left with obsessive attachments to the aliens that, like so many of the other compulsions in this phenomenon, cause personal problems with far-reaching, often devastating, consequences.

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BUFORA AGM Notice

The Twenty-First Annual General Meeting of BUFORA Ltd. will be held at the University of Westminster, Marylebone Road, London, NW1 at 6.30pm on Saturday, 1st June 1996 to receive the Chairman's Report, the report of the Council of Management, the Accounts of the Treasurer and to appoint the Auditor according to the Articles of Association.

Note

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

Only members of the Association in good standing and accredited proxies may attend and vote at the AGM, although guests will be welcomed to the following lecture. Please bring membership cards as this will speed checking against the current membership lists.

Agenda

1. Notice convening the meeting.
2. Minutes of the Twentieth Annual General Meeting.
3. President's Address.
4. Chairman's Report.
5. Treasurer's Report.
6. Director of Research Report.
7. Director of Investigations' Report.
8. Director of Publications Report.
9. Adoption of the Report of Council of Management, of the Report of the Auditor and of the Accounts for the year ending 31st August 1995.
- 10 The following Members of Council stand for re-election under Section 37 of the Articles of Association:-

Manfred Cassirer, Robert Digby and Paul Doran.

The two names to be ratified as Council members will be:-

Stan Conway and Robin Lindsay

11. Any Other Business

UFO Snapshots

by Ken Phillips

In a Spin in Stevenage

My four year old daughter came into the house and said, "Dad, come and see this." My wife and I followed her outside (front garden) and she pointed to the sky in a SSW direction. There in the sky (elevation 45 - 50° above the horizon) was a round, silver sphere that seemed to be appearing and disappearing every 10 seconds.

We watched it for about 90 seconds, then I fetched the binoculars (10x50). The binoculars gave me a very clear view. The object was not appearing then disappearing, but spinning. It was reflective for half the sphere and non-reflective on the other half, as it caught the sun it 'appeared', the dull side making it seem to disappear. The surface of the object looked like brushed aluminum, there were no apparent 'windows', 'doors' or protrusion of any kind; it was like a huge ball-bearing. After a total of about three minutes, it vanished without moving.

NB. It did move, it was too fast for the eye to see; it was stationary throughout the observation.

Case Evaluation by T.R. Dutton

For this case, 2 pm BST would have been 'spot-on' for a Greater London sighting. The spherical object described seems to have been real enough. Mr. Sullivan's guess, that the object may have accelerated away so quickly that it had appeared to vanish, is very much in line with my thinking on such 'vanishing acts.'

I found it interesting that the letter from Nabil Shaban in UT35 tells that a certain 'George' in Russia saw a large, metallic, spinning sphere some years ago. Could it have been just like the one described in this case?

Glastonbury Sighting

Myself and Nikki were standing soberly in the Jazz Field in a NW direction at Glastonbury, Somerset, when at around 11.30, we looked up and saw a twirling set of moving lights attached to what must have been a circular object. It was unlike anything we knew and so I immediately said, "It must be a UFO/space ship."

What made me feel this was the case was the lights were below this circular object and flashing in a way that was communicating to us - not above, like on a helicopter, where they might have them near the propellers. It was also silent and the way it glided was the smoothest and most effortless motion I had seen in the sky. The lights now are hard to remember [regarding] the exact colours, but I recall a yellow, red and green. It moved around in a circle and we were getting more convinced it was a UFO; we became totally locked/transfixed onto it.

It was as if, once we had both agreed it must be a UFO, that it swirled around and glided down straight towards us (crazy as this sounds). As this happened, we really became quite frightened, but awestruck: hair stood on end on my arms and my heart was pounding. It then glided to the right and away again. We looked at each other in a panic and naturally agreed that we needed to check this out with the people standing around us because we knew we were completely lucid (surely other people would have noticed it). However, the three people we nudged did not want to know. They didn't look hard enough or take it seriously and it made us just think that we had been honoured to have experienced this special encounter and sighting ourselves. We had tuned into it even if no-one else had noticed it. Everyone else was looking towards the stage - it was just that we looked up at the sky perhaps at that time and we saw it.

It then disappeared and we continued to just get on with the evening. I should also specify that the way the light appeared denoted the circular nature of the object. I didn't particularly see a white haze of an object: it was the way it glided that made it look like a flying saucer-type vessel, and when it came towards us, it came down like a spacecraft landing, as we know from the movies - a kind of effortless flutter downwards, not the joggly motion of a helicopter trying to land - and besides, we would have heard something if it would have been a helicopter.

The fact that other people thought it later could have been a helicopter never once occurred to myself or Nikki; that's how convinced we were it was something other-worldly.

Nikki's Account

It was around 11.30 at night when something in the sky moved and caught my eye. It was a strong red and orange light, and on closer inspection, these lights appeared square and in pairs. The object gliding in the night sky was silent and felt circular, although I could not see the outline of the flying object. On noticing it, it seemed to zoom in on my friend

and I. It appeared to be coming towards us, and after a while, and quite suddenly, it changed colours from red and orange to yellow and green. This really had an amazing impact on me because I was wearing yellow and green. I remember the colours vividly because of this.

After 60 seconds, it changed back to red and orange, circled slowly above us three times at a slight angle, and after the fourth circle, it went off into the distance and out of sight.

Case Evaluation by Roy Dutton, Dated 26-8-94

These women have submitted very lucid reports, obviously written independently. It's my impression that they were probably standing towards the rear of that Glastonbury Festival concert audience at the time of the sighting. It's not too surprising that no-one else paid much attention to activity overhead in those circumstances.

In their diagrams, the witnesses have depicted the direction of the object's circling motion differently, but then one can't be clear about the viewpoint taken by each. It's interesting that Ms. Bass remembers the coloured lights displayed by the object to have been square, whereas no mention of this is made by her companion (such differences in reports could be dependent on the relative sharpness of the eyesight of the witnesses and your current questionnaire doesn't ask whether glasses are usually worn or were being worn).

The timing of the event is excellent, beginning only six minutes after a predicted delivery from a sunset-orientated track, 54 degree inclined (see attached numerical computer output sheet).

The Glastonbury happening relates (time-wise and geographically) to the tracks labelled 54°/65° (delivery), and 58°/51° (retrieval) on the map.

Letter from America

I was with a friend (Jane) on the 101 Freeway, Los Angeles. I'm aware of the time because I'm going to be late to see a friend.

I'm leaning over the steering wheel with my chin on my hands waiting for the traffic lights to change. I look up to my left and froze when I saw an object moving fast, yet slow, gliding from my left and passing in front of the car. At that point, I'm confused looking for wings, fuselage or anything by which it can be driven. My face to the windscreen, eyes still confused, still keeping an eye on it, I say

to Jane, and at the top of my voice, "*What the hell's that?*" Now moving over to our right, it moves above the trees over towards the hills (valley). The traffic was moving (I don't feel right, if that makes sense).

As the lights changed, I'm moving forwards (two other cars in front of me) turning left to go over Sunset/Brentwood bridge to cross over the Freeway. I'm annoyed because I have to drive and, as Jane looks around, I look around to catch the last glimpse of the object moving over the trees to our right behind us. I'm driving fast, straight over the bridge, down the end of the road, making a right turn up the street because I'm sure this road leads to a hill. As I get to the top of this hill it's a cul-de-sac. I turn the car around as fast as I can because I'm annoyed this hill isn't high enough to see it. As soon as I stop the car, we both got out, and the only thing I say to her was, "*We'll both point at the same time to see which way we think it went.*" I cannot describe the feeling when she pointed in the same direction as me. My eyes were watering, screaming, and I couldn't stop swallowing out of the strangest fright, shaking.

We got back into the car, still not talking, just trying to think this all out fast. I drove back down the hill, made a right turn, then straight up to my friend's apartment drive, driving fast because the object had totally disappeared. I know I wanted to get back to the same spot where I saw it first. To be honest, I didn't know whether I was coming or going!

I'm at my friend's drive, I get out of the car (Jane waiting in the car) and wait at her door. She [friend] offers us to come in and notices I wasn't myself (very fidgety). I just handed her the money, ran back to the car and notice as I pull out of the drive an unusual, old, gangster car with black, very thin, tinted windows was in front of me. Okay, it's an American original, but it definitely looked out of place amongst the rest of them.

I'm going back along the Brentwood Blvd, pull down onto the Freeway at exactly the same spot where I saw the object first, but in the opposite direction, still not talking to Jane whatsoever, but I know we're both thinking the same thing: "*Did she see what I saw?*" I caught her staring at me a few times, looking blank, vice-versa. On an ordinary day, we would talk continually; obviously, something was different.

As I was travelling up the hill, heading for the valley above the car, four or five (I'm not sure), black-white painted helicopters went over to the hill beyond the trees, moving in the same direction and obviously aware of this object. I'm sure it was four or five minutes (max) from seeing the object to seeing the

helicopters. Again, we didn't even talk about the helicopters; I just think it hardened our proof, as if seeing this object wasn't enough.

My apartment is about 12 minutes away and I drove as if in a daze. I've never had so much thought racing through me; I was definitely 'elsewhere' in my mind. Confusion isn't the word to describe all this.

When we got back to my apartment, my then boyfriend and a few of our friends were sitting in the lounge watching TV and talking. I remember thinking, whilst putting down my bag, "*You wouldn't believe what I saw.*" But it wasn't that I didn't want to say it, because I've always got my so-called, usual, paranormal experiences off my chest, but this was a totally different thing altogether. The fact is they'd think I was crazy, so I just

different sizes; different tones make the lines go from thick to thin. It got so painful I couldn't open my eyes at one point. I stood up shouting, "Shut up," at the top of my voice. They both just looked at me and I said, "*Can you hear it?*" They both said they couldn't, but Seth said far too calmly, "*Go outside. You know what you can hear!*" I'm thinking [just want this to stop. I'm going to have to go outside if that what it takes, not knowing what to expect or what might happen; I was in total agony in my head.

Seth's flat is on a Peacock Commune in the hills of Topanga/Eagle Rock, trees hills, peacocks and the stars are the only things there. I think that's what scared me even more. In this setting, anything could happen and nobody would hear. As I went outside, Seth came out and I stood outside his gate -

I'm going back along the Brentwood Blvd, pull down onto the Freeway at exactly the same spot where I saw the object first, but in the opposite direction, still not talking to Jane whatsoever, but I know we're both thinking the same thing: "*Did She see what I saw?*"

keep my mouth shut. Jane just got on with doing her thing and so did I, obviously trying to block it all out.

At this time I moved to Santa Cruz, into the mountains. Thinking about it now, my life changed from this point onwards; there I started meeting people obviously for a reason. I then moved to Topanga Canyon, Ca., just outside of the valley near Malibu, again meeting people for a reason. Everyone in this canyon thought it [the experience] was normal. Even the local health food store had a poster up asking for people to come forward. Obviously, a lot of activity went on there. One night, I was at our friend's, Seth. My boyfriend and Seth were talking and trying to sing. Seth is very, very much connected to UFOs. It wasn't as if we talked about it all the time; there are people who just know he's experienced a few things. From out of nowhere, getting louder and louder from inside my head, I'm hearing the weirdest of tones. It's as if I'm watching a heart monitor in my head and watching the tones vibrate to

I'm not that brave - looking up to the sky way above the trees surrounding us. My boyfriend was inside, but he could have been behind Seth, I'm not sure. My head is still banging and I'm outside no longer than fifteen seconds until I think I'm going totally crazy; thinking, "What on Earth am I doing waiting out here in the middle of nowhere, pitch black, late at night, waiting for a UFO. Yet knowing I've never, ever had this experience before, yet they were both connected; the sighting and the tones; I definitely know it inside; I've never been so scared. I ran inside thinking, "*I'm waiting for something to come and get me. There are no such things, but I know what I saw months earlier.*"

Everything is so uncanny now, writing and reading this all back to myself; everything fits together!??? I would very much like to go further into all this as I can never describe this in writing. *Forgotten but now Imminent* was written also at this time. Believe me, I wasn't sure what I was writing until I had finished it; feeling things like this phenomenon definitely changed my life!

Playing the IFO Percentages

A Research Report by Rob Bull

Background

I became interested in the quoted percentage of UFO reports that were evaluated as "unknown" during the course of my UFO investigations and general reading. Figures in the 5 to 10% range (i.e. 90 to 95% IFOs) seemed to be common and generally accepted, although I had come across much lower IFO figures.

It seemed to me that I needed a clearer understanding of:

- what is meant by **identified**
- what is meant by **unidentified**
- what is meant by **report**

To this end, with the suggestion and help of Philip Mantle, I instituted a survey of 18 UFO groups worldwide, plus the alt. alien visitors and alt. paranat. ufo newsgroups.

The Survey

Besides the obvious "What's your percentage?" question, I also posed a number of other questions relating to factors that I felt might influence reported percentages, as shown below (with supporting detail where necessary):

What is your organisation's percentage of IFOs (Identified Flying Objects)?

How many reports is this percentage derived from, and in what year did you start investigating reports?

(Obviously, more weight can be given to a percentage figure based on 10,000 reports gathered over 40 years than 100 reports from a group started up this year.)

How thoroughly is each report investigated?

Someone sitting at a desk (dare I say wearing a USAF uniform, in the 1960s?!) thumbing through a pile of reports and saying, "Venus, aircraft, Venus, hmm, maybe we'll look into that one..." is taking a different route to a conclusion on a report than someone who gets out there and *investigates*. I would suggest that the former has a greater incentive to return an 'identified' conclusion than the latter.

Is the field investigator's explanation of a case taken as final, or could this conclusion be overruled by a more experienced

investigator before the case is archived? There's a risk that 'genuine unidentifieds' (whatever that means) may be 'sanitised' but clearly the 'evaluator' has a duty to 'filter' investigation reports handed in by inexperienced, enthusiastic investigators (like yours truly!). I don't somehow feel there's a risk of a mis-evaluation going the other way. See UFORUM's answer to this one.

For IFOs, could you give a rough breakdown of the percentages of types of IFO (e.g. stars, planets, aircraft etc)? [I was just curious as to what type of IFO was reported most often.]

Have these proportions changed over the years?

I was wondering whether, for man-made IFOs in particular, people might be becoming more 'educated' over the years, and would be mis-reporting this type of IFO less often. See MUFON's answer to this one.

What happens to cases where there is 'insufficient data'? Are they:

- * counted as UFOs?
- * counted as IFOs?
- * not counted at all?

If you do the maths, the answer to this one could have quite a significant effect on the reported percentages. Hynek [2] shows that Blue Book's IFO percentage comes down to 77% if 'insufficient data' cases are counted as 'UFOs' in the *UFO Experience*.

Do you have any general comments on this overall topic?

I expect there were plenty of questions I didn't think to ask!

The Results

I eventually received six replies, including one Internet message. For what they're worth, the 'raw' IFO percentage figures I got back were:

CUFOS:	(no figure given)
MUFON:	80 to 90%
SOS OVNI:	98%
UFO Research Australia:	96 to 98%
UFOROM:	31.5%
VUFORS:	90%

(The UFOROM figure is **not** a mistake; see UFOROM's entry overleaf.)

Other relevant comments, by organisation, are as follows.

CUFOS

(J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies.) Disappointingly for such an august body, they had **no statistics** for their IFO percentage, or for the total number of sighting reports on their files.

Whilst making some interesting observations [e.g. "The real change that has been noticed over the years is the dramatic worldwide decline in good UFO reports."], **none** of my survey questions were answered properly. (Reply unsigned.)

MUFON

(This one from Walt Andrus himself!) Started investigating reports in 1967, but no total number of investigations given. Extensive network of Investigators/State Directors/Regional Directors. Definite IFO reports [where 'IFO' could be decided at State Director level] not archived. Stated that as the public becomes more "educated" the number and proportion of IFO reports is moving down. 'Insufficient data' cases *not* counted.

SOS OVNI

(Frane, P. Petrakis. Sexy stamps on this one!) Didn't answer the questionnaire as such, because he (?) admitted that SOS OVNI didn't keep any statistical records. Had been investigating UFO reports since 1974, returning 98% as IFOs. 'Insufficient data' cases counted as IFOs (50% of the IFO conclusions coming from this source; see Table 1 for comments on this topic). Cited common (peculiarly French?) IFOs as 'Sky Trackers' used to advertise nightclubs, and rocket launches from the Biscarosse launch site.

UFO Research Australia

(aka Australian International UFO Flying Saucer Research Inc.) Claimed to have investigated 60 cases since 1952 (?). 'Insufficient data' cases counted as UFOs. Very little information in this reply, none of it useful (or believable!)

UFOROM

(E-mail from Chris Rutkowski.) A very interesting and useful reply, easily the best that I received. Said that IFOs to them were **positively identified** objects, and as such constituted a small percentage of reports. Their 1993 figure was 31.5% (based on 489 reports) [3], this being **much higher** than in previous years (due to a significant fireball event occurring over Canada in October 1993). All reports within UFOROM's 'patch'

investigated very thoroughly. Case reports reviewed by a 'compiler', who could make 'adjustments' to the field investigator's conclusions. 'Insufficient Data' cases kept as a separate category, i.e. *not* counted as IFOs.

VUFORS

(Victorian UFO Research Society, Australia.) Quite a useful report from Paul Norman. VUFORS has been investigating UFO reports since 1957. Stated that 'best' cases, such as the Frederick Valentich case and the Knowles case, were investigated *very* thoroughly; whereas 'lights in the sky' cases were usually handled by post + telephone; although this policy was only adopted after experience showed that follow-up visits in such cases usually yielded little useful extra information. Gave a breakdown of IFO types, which, interestingly, was not even close to the breakdown reported by Allan Hendry [1] following his study; see Table 2. 'Insufficient data' cases *not counted at all*. Sent extra information about a recent spate of 'prank balloons' (reported as UFOs) in the Dandenong hills (ah!, the Dandenongs...)

Discussion

The number of replies received was far too few to draw any firm conclusions regarding the topics mentioned at the start of this report. However, the fact that there was considerable variation in investigation and reporting methods adopted by the replying organisations highlights the fact that statements like "95% of UFO reports turn out to be reports of identifiable objects or phenomena" should not be accepted unreservedly.

Two particularly interesting points to come out of the survey were:

- * the differing treatments of 'insufficient data' cases.

- * variation in the breakdown of IFO types.

These aspects are discussed below.

The Treatment of 'Insufficient Data' Cases

The table below illustrates the effect of

categorising 'insufficient data' cases as IFOs, UFOs, or 'uncounted'.

Here we see that, for example, for the Blue Book sample, counting ID cases as 'identified' (the usual approach) gives a UFO proportion of 5.5%; counting the ID cases as 'unidentified' (i.e. as UFOs, as suggested by Hynek) gives a UFO proportion of 23.5%; not counting the ID cases at all (i.e. by saying that, in this example, there were not 10,137 cases but $(10,137 \div 1822) = 8315$ cases, 557 of them unidentified) gives a UFO proportion of 6.7%.

Two things to note here:

- * The effect of changing the ID classification is invariant with sample size. (I don't actually know the sample size in the SOS OVNI case, but that doesn't matter.)

- * The effect of changing the ID classification varies with the percentage of IDs in the sample - the greater the proportion of IDs, the more pronounced (on average) the effect of varying the ID classification.

The latter may just result from a mathematical property of the data (i.e. forget we're talking about UFOs at all) or it could be saying that a wide variation exists in the way 'insufficient data' (and, by implication, the other categories) are defined.

The Breakdown of IFO Types

The table overleaf illustrates the differing breakdown of IFO types (definite IFOs, IDs not counted) across three samples. I was just idly curious about this, but I began to wonder if there may be significant differences in the **availability** of some IFO types to different groups in different parts of the world at different times.

For example, 'Ad planes' were Hendry's second-most frequent reported IFO; 'ad planes' are virtually unknown in the UK, especially at night, so what would Hendry have done if he went on to investigate the same number of UFO reports in the UK? Would the temptation to assign reports to the other (globally available) IFO types have been stronger than it should have been, thus resulting in a few 'real' UFOs

being missed?

All hypothetical I know, but I still think that table 2 makes interesting reading.

Recommendations

I would have liked more data, but what I think the survey shows is that there is considerable variability in the percentages of UFO report evaluation categories, and that this variation is due, at least in part, to the different **definitions** used for each evaluation category.

If all report evaluation agencies used the **same** definitions, then one could be reasonably confident that any differences in evaluation patterns thrown up by the different groups would be due to differences in the data itself rather than the way it was evaluated.

What I think is needed therefore are **standard** definitions of:

- what is meant by **identified**
- what is meant by **unidentified**
- what is meant by **insufficient data**
- what is meant by **report**.

I expect (and hope) that what follows will be the subject of much debate, but the following are **suggested** definitions.

Positively Identified

The reported object has been identified with 100% certainty.

For example, the investigator contacts an airline (or air force) which says: "Yes, the serial number you gave us is one of ours, and it was in the air at that location at that time."

Probably/Possibly Identified

The reported object has all, or some, of the characteristics of its probable/possible identification

An example of 'probable' would be a case where the investigator is as near as damnit certain that an aircraft has been reported, but the independent verification that would result in a positive identification cannot be obtained.

Table 1: UFO Percentages

ID cases counted as . . .	IFOs	UFOs	(not counted)
Reporting sample			
Hendry (2.8% ID's)	8.6	11.4	8.9
Hynek/Blue Book (18% ID's)	5.5	23.5	6.7
JTAP ('80-'82) [4] (28% ID's)	14.6	42.4	20.3
UFOROM ('89-'93) (41% ID's)	13.1	54.1	22.2
SOS OVNI (49% ID's)	2.0	51	3.9

Table 2: IFO Breakdowns

% of total IFOs	Hendry	VUFORS	JTAP
IFO Type			
Stars & planets	35.2	75.0	25.4
Advertising planes	22.5		
Aircraft	19.1	8.0	26.3
Meteors and re-entries	11.0		15.2
Ball lightning			5.9
Satellites	2.3		4.2
Moon	2.1		1.7
Prank balloons	1.4		
Searchlights	0.9		<1.0
Balloons	0.9	2.0	5.9
Missile launches	0.6		
Fixed ground lights	0.5		<1.0
Flares	<0.5		3.4
Hoaxes		5.0	1.7
Hallucination			1.7
Birds	<0.5		
Kites	<0.5		1.7
Clouds	<0.5		<1.0
Test clouds	<0.5		
Airborne Residue	<0.5		<1.0
Mirage	<0.5		
Moondog	<0.5		
Window reflection	<0.5		

An example of 'possible' would be a case where the investigator suspects that an aircraft has been reported, and that those characteristics which do not seem to be ascribable to an aircraft are the result of mis-reporting. [Witnesses could be confused by 'nocturnal light' sightings, where lack of a fixed frame of reference (the ground) makes it difficult to tell whether an object is moving along or across the observer's line of sight.]

Insufficient Data

Some or all basic details such as the observer's location, the time and date, and the observed object's appearance and movement are missing from the report.

Unidentified

Despite an intensive investigation, and despite there being sufficient information to otherwise evaluate the report, no

probable or possible explanation in terms of known phenomena can be suggested.

Report

The investigator has spoken to a witness of a sighting and has recorded details of the conversation.

Thus an investigator could be 'fed' details of a sighting from a variety of sources, or the investigator could track down a witness, starting from, say a newspaper report. A newspaper report **in itself** thus would not count as a report.

Where Do We Go From Here?

Adoption of the above definitions is not going to solve the UFO mystery, but if all investigators used them then any subsequent analysis of evaluation profiles (across different

investigation agencies) would be meaningful.

Of course, when I say 'all investigators' then it would be wonderful if that could mean worldwide! In practice though, that is probably going to be impossible to achieve (although perhaps some inroads could be made through ICUR), but I think that adoption of a standard set of definitions within BUFORA at least, should be achievable.

We already have the recent requirement that no-one can become an Accredited Investigator for BUFORA unless he/she successfully completes the investigator's postal training course; this gives reason to believe that the **quality** of investigations will increase. Use of a standard set of definitions for evaluation purposes should increase the **consistency** of evaluations.

I suggest that use of a standard set of definitions should be mandatory; investigators should be directed not to return a UFO conclusion (for example) unless the 'UFO' conclusion definition is met. If BUFORA can arrive at a situation where high-quality, consistent investigations are being produced then the workload on the Director of Investigations would be reduced (although he/she should still have the right to overrule investigators' conclusions if necessary).

A standard set of definitions could be enshrined in an all-new BUFORA Investigators Manual.

... now there's a thought ...

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3. Rutkowski, C.A., 1993, *The 1993 Canadian UFO Survey - Five Years of UFOs*, UFORUM, Canada.
4. Wooten, M.R., 1985, 'A Statistical Overview 1980-1982', *The Journal of Transient Aerial Phenomena*, September 1985 issue.

Investigations Diary

by Gloria Dixon

1995 has seen a tremendous upsurge in both UFO sightings and close encounters reported to BUFORA and many other UFO organisations and groups all over Britain.

I believe one of the major reasons for this is the immense coverage by the media on the subject of UFOs and related phenomena over the past year, and the focus of this interest was, of course, the controversial Roswell Footage. There are some positive and negative areas here.

On the negative side, this means that unless some people have been locked away without access to a newspaper, radio or television, everyone has digested some form of information pertaining to the UFO phenomenon and its related counterparts. Therefore, there is much imagery available. Many more people are looking up at the sky after watching various programmes on the subject and they are observing all manner of explainable objects, which at times can look most unusual. Hence there are many more reports coming in that have a perfectly rational explanation.

On the plus side, the enormous media coverage has made people aware of the various organisations to which they can report their sightings and feel quite comfortable about doing so. Of course that can only be a good thing as we are receiving many more reports, and emerging from those are the significant sightings and encounters that hopefully will illuminate the way ahead in the study of this compelling phenomenon.

UFO sightings reported to BUFORA have decreased during November and particularly December. However, laser light-shows in the run up to Christmas have certainly generated some of the sightings that have been received and I shall be documenting one of these as an example of how strange laser lights can look to those not in the immediate vicinity. They are described in various ways, for example, "like headlights in the sky" or "dozens of small round lights intertwining in the sky". They are also described as lights in the sky spinning one way inside and the other way on the outside. Laser lights bounce off low cloud and can look extremely strange to many people.

On the astronomical front, as I am sure many of you will be aware, Venus has been

extremely brilliant and low in the South Western sky recently. The Geminids meteor shower would be have been visible on the 14th/15th December and the Quadrantids meteor shower, will be visible from January 1st to 6th, particularly on January 4th.

A Cattle Mutilation from Camlough, Co. Armagh

Miles Johnston of the Irish UFO Research Centre contacted me to report an unusual light in the sky on 16th September in the Belfast area. He went on to tell me about a cattle mutilation reported in Co. Armagh, and that he had obtained slides showing these injuries to the cow. At my request he kindly passed these to BUFORA investigator Andrew Allen, who mailed them to me. This incident has been documented in the Belfast newspaper where it is claimed that the carcass was discovered near Camlough, Bessbrook, Co. Armagh. The general area is Bessbrook, Northern Ireland.

This incident was reported to Tony Dodd, Director of Investigations for Quest International by the photographer and Tony has these photographs and will be investigating this report. Therefore, I am unfortunately not at liberty to show these photographs in *UFO Times* at the moment particularly as the photographer wishes to remain anonymous. However, I would like to say that the photographs I have in my possession show very unpleasant injuries around the rectum area and also flesh removed from the head and stomach. There are also claims that vital organs have been removed. Andrew visited the area in Camlough and spoke with some of the local farmers in the vicinity, but was unable to obtain any information about the incident. I will give an update in *UFO Times* as soon as any further information comes to light.

**Date: 22nd November 1995,
Rochester Kent
Inv: Howard Weinthrop**

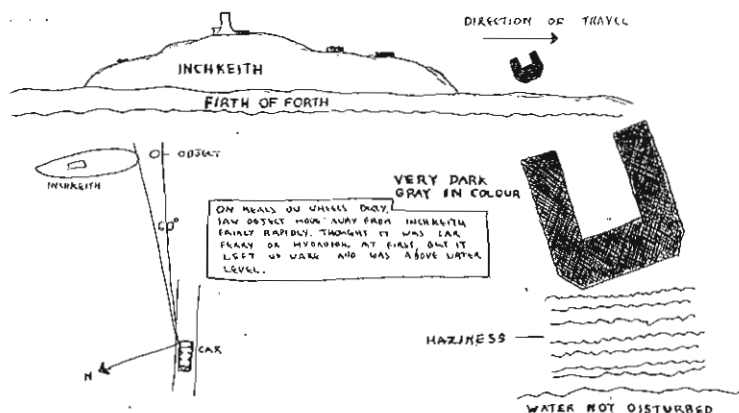
D.N. and another prison officer were taking inmates back into one of the prison wings, when they both noticed a very bright white light moving extremely fast about a mile away over the Thames. It was moving from north to south and they felt that it was much faster than a military jet. They reported that it shot upwards at a right angle and their observation time was estimated at four to five seconds. D.N. was convinced he had seen something very unusual.

After investigation and writing to the County Constabulary about this sighting Howard has been able to establish that the light observed emanated from the Kent Air Ambulance service, which was involved in a training sortie using its 'Nite-Sun' high intensity search lamp. This training sortie actually took place between 17.40 and 18.00, and would have taken the aircraft directly over HMP Rochester. There is however the discrepancy of timing as D.N. reported their observation as being 16.40, rather than 17.40. This may have been due to the fact that he was confused about the time.

**Date: 27th September 1995,
Keighley, West Yorkshire
Inv: John Heptonstall**

On 27th September at 21.05 J.M. noticed a bright rotating light which appeared to be hovering and then moved off towards the trees, speeding up as it moved in a westerly direction toward Blackpool. Obviously this area is central to several airports, namely Leeds/Bradford, Manchester and Blackpool, and although John has not been able to establish this light as being an aircraft conclusively, he feels that it could have been

MONDAY 9th OCTOBER 1995, 12.30 p.m., 1/2 MILE FROM GRANTON ROAD NEAR GRANTON SQUARE
ED: BWS/BH



a helicopter, and certainly the fact that the bright light appeared to be hovering, would possibly be indicative of a helicopter.

Date: 9th October 1995, Inchkeith Island, Firth of the Fourth
Inv: Billie Devlin, SPI/BUFORA

This is an interesting case and occurred at 12.30pm on Monday 9th October. C.M. was a passenger in a car with three other people delivering Meals on Wheels. After completing their run they turned into Granton Road, which allowed a good clear view of the Firth of the Fourth. They were driving slowly due to the bumps and C.M. was looking towards Inchkeith Island in the middle of the Firth of the Forth, when he observed a 'U' shaped object to the right of the island.

After dismissing the fact that it was a hydrofoil or hovercraft, he realised that the object was 20 to 25 feet from the surface of the water and was not leaving a wake along the surface. He described it as being a large, square 'U' shaped configuration and the corner seemed to be clipped off. C.M. has an interest in aviation, marine technology and science, and estimated the speed of this object to be 40 knots at a 'dipped' angle with distortion, like a heat haze between the object and sea. It became more difficult to observe this object as they drove further along Upper Granton Road and C.M. said it was continuing along a course which would take it out to the North Sea.

He felt very puzzled and confused about what he had seen and returned to the scene approximately one hour later to check things out. He could see nothing and later consulted many marine and aviation books but could find nothing that conformed to a marine or aviation flying machine similar to the object he had witnessed. Billie Devlin forwarded the report to the local coast guard and RAF Lossiemouth, and neither had any ideas as to what the object was. The coastguard stated that "The object does not conform to any known object" and "None of my staff can identify the object". They had not received any other reports on this.

Billie therefore feels that this sighting remains as an unidentified object, and was impressed with the clarity of C.M.'s description. (See drawing by C.M.).

Date: 17th October 1995, A5, approx. 2 miles from Oswestry.
Inv: Dominic Beglin

I.A. was driving home to Llamarmon at 8.30pm on 17th October and approximately two miles from Oswestry she observed an object that appeared to be coming towards

her and was above her car at approximately tree-top height. This object stayed with her and above her car for a further two miles along the A5. She described the object as round with a cloud around it and it was spinning one way inside and the other way on the outside. It then just disappeared, in that it did not shoot away, it just disappeared.



Chirk Bank, this is the location that the two members of the public reported seeing their sightings to Constable McCloud from.

This photograph looks SW to Oswestry. At this point the landscape is quite flat and Oswestry itself is a few miles distant. An airborne sighting of a light show could easily have been sighted at this location.



This photograph taken from the "horseshoe pass", just outside Llangollen looking NE shows how drastic the landscape within the sighting area can be. Llangollen itself is mid-centre of the photograph buried deep within the valley. A few miles further on the landscape becomes absolutely flat.

The witness also stressed that there was no other traffic on the A5, which was most unusual and she emphasized that she had never driven on the A5 when there had been no other traffic. She described her feelings about this sighting as though "life stood still". When she approached the roundabout and the object disappeared she felt confused and frightened.

After considerable investigative work, Dominic contacted PC McCloud of the Gwynedd Police, who informed him of

another report from two people on the 18th October. These witnesses were in a state of shock when they reported their sighting, which they described as a ring of bright white lights in some low cloud. PC. McCloud, a colleague and the two witnesses all went to the area to view these lights which appeared to be sometimes low and sometimes high up in the sky. Two other people in the area were amused by their interest and informed the two policemen and witnesses that they were observing a laser light display which was emanating from the Vic Nightclub on Brook Street, Oswestry. There were also nine other calls received the police in connection with this sighting.

A laser light display certainly appears to be the most reasonable explanation for I.A.'s sighting on 16th October, particularly due to the fact that this particular night club had started to use laser light displays as a regular feature. With reference to I.A.'s feelings of confusion and fear during her sighting, my feeling is that when we see something for which we have no frame of reference it is perfectly natural to feel apprehensive, and to reiterate on my comments at the beginning of this diary, much imagery is available, and naturally this will be reinforced when observing unusual lights in the sky, particularly driving alone without any other traffic on the road at the time. As Dominic so correctly pointed out, there were descriptions of similar feelings between the two witnesses and their sighting on 18th October and I.A.'s sighting on 16th October.

Date: 1965, Lincoln
Inv: Nick O'Roarty

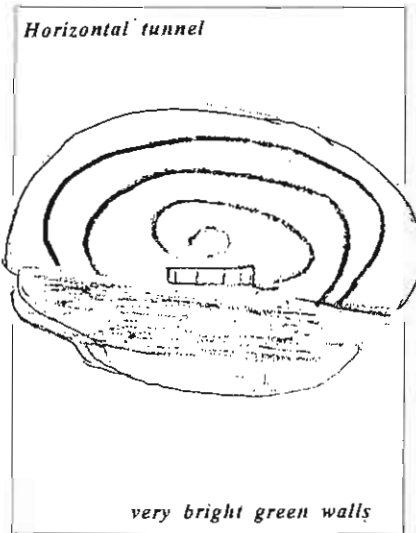
C.F. contacted BUFORA by phone to report some unusual events, but more specifically some kind of inexplicable event from 1965 when she was nine years old. She found herself outside her house in the orchard. She then described seeing 'spaceships' in the sky and then next remembers being inside one of them where she communicated with a tall blond being in blue. She says they told her many things.

Her next memory is being at the bottom of the stairs in her home, and her parents could not understand what she was doing there, as they had not seen her coming down the stairs. Apparently she had never discussed these events until recently, and felt apprehensive at times when talking about them. She told me that she feels she is not meant to discuss this event with anyone. Nick is following up this investigation and I am awaiting his report on it.

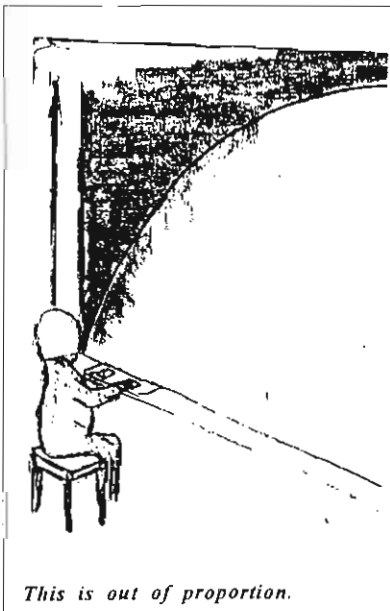
Date: June 1992 plus several other incidents, Tyne & Wear

Inv: Gloria Dixon

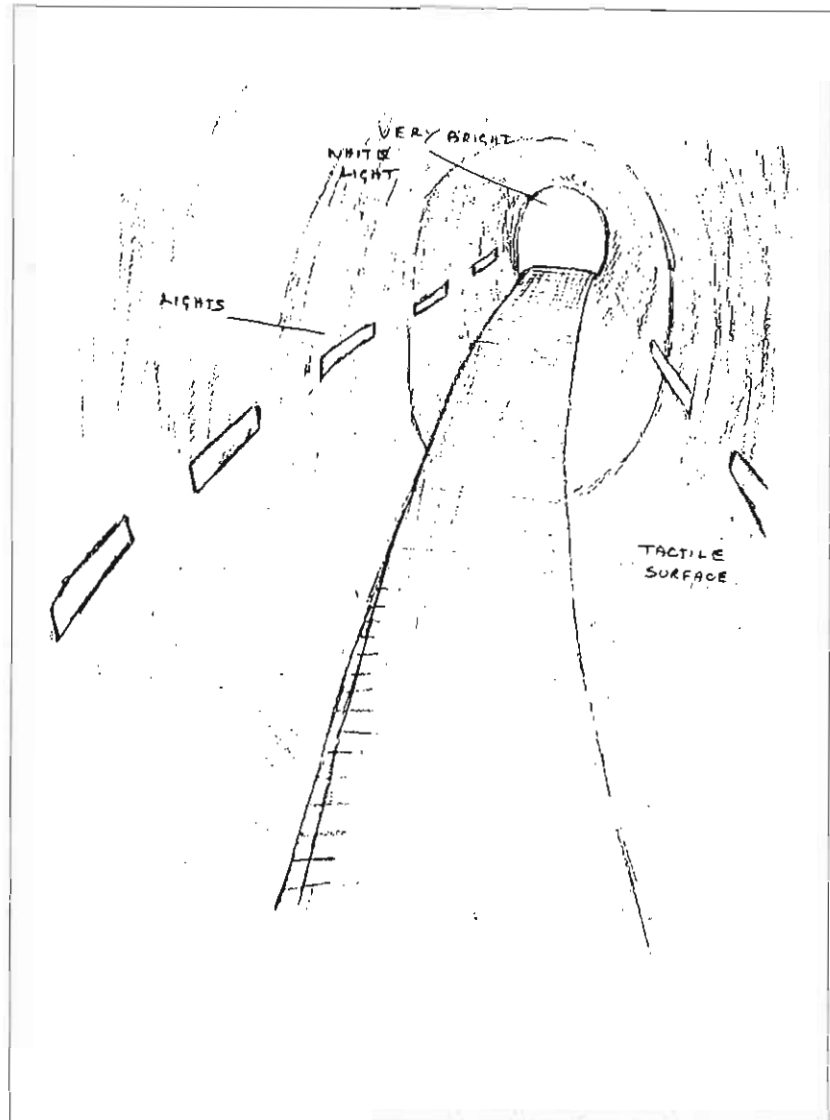
Victoria Gray (pseudonym) wrote to me after the first BUFORA lecture here in Newcastle to report inexplicable events that have taken place in her life, specifically something that happened three years ago in June 1992. She had reported these events some time ago to various UFO researchers, but said she felt like a statistic.



In June 1992 Linda reports waking up in the night and looking out of her bedroom window and seeing a very bright light shining down through an area of fog. She describes this as



"like a scene out of a Victorian time." There was no noise, but she saw what she thought were three children, about three feet in height, and pale in colour. There was someone else in the garden who appeared to be an adult wearing a dark suit or robe of some kind. She could hear chattering from the "children", but had no idea what they



were saying.

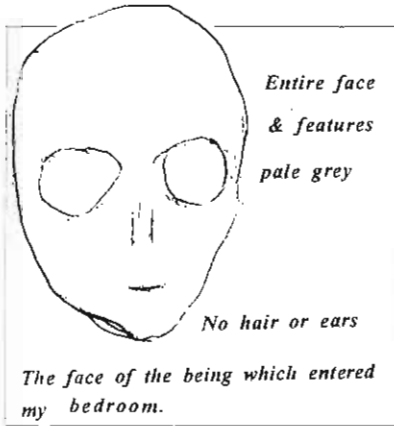
Looking down she could see them coming nearer and they appeared to have what she described as a rope. She had the impression they were going to use this somehow to climb up to her window, but did not feel frightened (as would be very normal under these circumstances!) Instead she said she felt that the window was closed, therefore there would be no entry for them. She then returned to bed and did not wake her husband sleeping next to her. She cannot understand this.

The next thing she became aware of was that there was a bright light and a silhouette that appeared to emerge through the curtains and come into the room. This terrified her and she describes this entity as having "no eyes" in that they were huge, but without a pupil and very pale. She remembers nothing after that and the following day felt apprehensive, as though someone was watching her. She was afraid of being in the house on her own and developed a fear of the dark and going to bed at night. This fear went on for a period of about three months, during

which time she had impressions of different images from that night.

She had the impression of being led along a tunnel wearing a strange garment, by two small entities. She then became aware of being in something akin to a lift and then in a room she describes as white where someone was sitting at some kind of panel. These images would be very intense and upsetting, and fortunately she began a three year college course on Urban Studies, which helped her to get her mind away from these strange events.

There have been other inexplicable events during her life before the 1992 incident. At age 24 she experienced what she described as a vivid dream and remembers a woman with a pale face and dark hair standing at the bottom of her bed beckoning Victoria to go with her. She has no other recollection of anything after this except that she changed from being a happy-go-lucky person to being totally afraid of everything. Because of this, she insisted that her family (husband and two children) make an exchange on their home in order to move. This apparently did not help



much, but she started a secretarial course in the September of that year, which helped to take her mind off this event.

Victoria reports two other experiences, one age 10, when she had another dreamlike experience in the night and a girl appeared in her room at the bottom of her bed and beckoned Victoria to go with her. She says she did this but does not remember anything after that. At age 5 years she recalls very vividly strange lights in the hallway of a house where she lived with her parents in Southern England.



Victoria also said that her daughter (10 years of age) used to suffer from night terrors. She is adamant these were not the normal nightmares. In 1993, her daughter awoke screaming one night and her chest was pounding. She told Victoria of grey monsters' arms coming through her bedroom window and kept saying "I can't go with you". It took a great deal of time to calm her eight year old daughter. Victoria has been married twice and has four children by her first marriage and her second husband has a 15 year old daughter, who when she stays with them, sleeps in the bedroom of their youngest daughter (with the night terrors) About a year ago, after staying with Victoria and her father, she told them that she had a wonderful dream the previous night where the "Martians" came and took her on a

spaceship. Apparently, she often has similar dreams when staying with Victoria and her father.

Victoria has kindly sent me drawings to try and give some visual impact of her experiences, some of which are documented here in the investigations diary. What I found of great interest with the events experienced by Victoria, is that fact that her 1992 experience is very similar to a description from another case that I investigated nearly two years ago. Victoria could have no knowledge of this, as it has only been documented in *Strange Daze*. She had never even heard of this magazine, let alone read it. However, I have put her in touch with this other lady, as she was quite desperate to talk with someone else who had undergone inexplicable events of this nature. I found Victoria to be a totally pragmatic lady, who needed to talk about these events at length, and my interview with her will be documented in a casefile, which will be sent to BUFORA's Research Department.

On behalf of the *BUFORA NIC*, I would like to wish you all a very happy and healthy new year.

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Research Review

by Steve Gamble,
Director of Research

Our expanded research programme has been underway for about a year now, so I am in the process of writing a review of progress so far. I hope to be able to publish this in the *UFO Times* in the near future. The research team are also working on a couple of special publications which describe some of the work they have been involved in.

I am currently seeking a volunteer to act as Secretary to the Research Committee. The main tasks will be the distribution of the Agenda, taking Minutes of the Research Meetings and distribution of the Minutes. Interested members are invited to contact me at the address given in the front of the *UFO Times*. I would like to express my thanks to Stan Conway, who has taken on the role of acting Secretary at short notice.

MIBs

Previously, I had proposed that we start a project to look at the field of "Alleged Cover-ups and 'Men-In-Black' reports". It was the general feeling at the October Research Meeting that rather than attempt to deal with this as one subject Men-In-Black (MIB) reports should be dealt with separately from the issue of possible cover-ups. The idea behind setting up a study of MIB reports was that whilst I had heard of a number of reports from the 1950s and early 1960s, I could not recall any more recent cases. One purpose of the proposed study was to establish if such reports still occurred. Recently I came across an article by Brinsley Le Poer Trench in which he states "1969 has seen a big resurgence of 'Men-in-Black' stories." ("Whither UFOlogy in the 70's?", BUFORA Journal, Vol 2, No 10, pp. 4 & 5). It was also decided that the study should be expanded to include reports of "Men-in-White" reports as these may be related. This project is currently seeking a co-ordinator, but I have offers of contributions from Manfred Cassirer, Richard Conway and John Spencer. Offers of help, especially from somebody willing to act as co-ordinator, would be welcome.

Cover-Ups

I still hope to establish a separate project to study alleged cover-ups. (Offers of help invited.) Recently I was invited to talk to a local group in Bedford. They asked if I could talk about the area of cover-ups as a number of them were interested in these. During the course of my research for this talk I came across an interesting item in Brinsley Le Poer Trench's book "The Flying Saucer Story".

Many people will be aware of the MJ-12 papers which turned up in the mid-1980s. A cassette of undeveloped 35mm film was sent anonymously to a researcher in the USA. When the film was developed it was found to contain pictures of documents which seemed to confirm that the U.S. government had recovered crashed flying saucers including from the Roswell incident, and had been studying them. The MJ-12 documents are highly controversial with many researchers believing them to be a hoax.

Le Poer Trench talks about UFO reports being referred to a higher authority within the US intelligence community than Project Blue book in "The Flying Saucer Story", which was published in 1967. He goes on to say, that after reading a 1963 book about the covert sections of the U.S. government, he now believes this group (to which UFO reports are passed) is called 54-12. The similarity in name to MJ-12 is striking, indeed at one point I believed that on a US telephone the keys with the letters 'M' and 'J' were actually '5' and '4' (I am reliably informed that they don't, so there goes another nice story.). It remains to be seen if Le Poer Trench's statements, or the earlier work they are based upon acted as the basis for the MJ-12 story, or if such an organisation as 54-12/MJ-12 really exists.

Repeat Events

In previous Research Reviews I have spoken about the importance I believe should be attached to repeat events. In the 1960s and 1970s the area around Warminster in Wiltshire was the location of a wide range of UFO-related activity. The most famous of the Warminster events is perhaps the photograph of the so-called Warminster Thing, which was taken by Gordon Faulkner in September 1965. In previous issues of *UFO TIMES*, John Spencer has published a couple of articles about his recent re-investigation of the Faulkner photograph (see *UFO TIMES* 17, pages 6 & 9 & *UFO TIMES* 31, pages 3 & 5). I intend to set up a research project to investigate the Warminster UFO reports as a prime example of an area where there was repeated reports over a long period of time.

Sky Watches

UFO reports are the raw data from which BUFORA and other research organisations work. The majority of these reports come from members of the public who observe something strange whilst undertaking their normal activity. As such they are a random selection of UFO activity. To improve the quality of the data available for study we need to collect data in a more systematic way. This is not to say that reports from members of the public are not of value, but that we need to supplement them. One means of doing this is to establish instrumented observation points which continuously monitor

an area. This is being investigated by Philip Walton, who is working on the equipment requirements. Another method is to organise sky observation exercises by groups of human observers. I am currently looking for somebody to organise a programme of these skywatches. Interested members are invited to contact me.

The Roswell Footage

Any discussion of current UFO research would not be complete without at least a passing mention of the alleged footage of the Roswell Incident. But when you talk about the Roswell Film, which one do you mean? I have been able to identify a number of different pieces of film from at least three sources:

1. Tent Footage 1; apparent preliminary examination of a body in a tent/shed, shown to Reg Presley and some other researchers early 1995, source Ray Santilli.
2. Tent Footage 2; similar to above, but probably different sequence, shown to BUFORA early 1995, source Ray Santilli.
3. Tent Footage 3; similar to but different from both of the above, appears on the video *Penetrating the Web 2*, source Bruce Barlow.
4. Autopsy 1; autopsy film shown to some researchers in April/May 1995, not shown since, source Ray Santilli.
5. Autopsy 2; similar, but different from above, widely used in documentaries, etc., source Ray Santilli.
6. Wreckage; show apparent control panels and other wreckage filmed inside tent/shed, source Ray Santilli.
7. Hessman's Footage; undeveloped film given to researcher Michael Hessman by daughter of Roswell airman, little chance of recovering images, source Michael Hessman.

And all this does not include the two guys who turned up at Michael Hessman's conference in Dusseldorf with their Roswell film. They claimed that they had found it amongst other films a girlfriend of one of them had inherited from an uncle. It turned out to be a cheap hoax by a German TV company, even to the extent that their model tore as they were cutting it. (Perhaps they should have contacted Morgana Productions who could have done a much better job for them! [for details of the Morgana pictures see John Spence's article in *UFO TIMES* 37]) There can be no doubt that this (the Dusseldorf) film is a fake. In recent weeks, the TV company has shown footage

of them constructing the 'alien' and of filming the 'autopsy' (see *UFO TIMES* 38, page 21).

Although there have been several dozen alleged crashed Flying Saucer recoveries by different governments, the important thing to remember about the Roswell incident is that the U.S. Army Air Force put out a press release saying that something had been recovered. So the UFOlogists and the authorities are agreed for once; something DID happen at Roswell. It is only about the nature of what happened; crashed balloon or crashed Flying Saucer that they differ. One or more of the various pieces of film recently discovered may turn out to be evidence about the Roswell incident, or may be evidence of some other event, or they may all turn out to be hoaxes. Only time (and careful investigation) will tell.

At the BUFORA AGM in April 1995, soon after the existence of Santilli's film became public knowledge, John Spencer made a statement about BUFORA's involvement with the film where he urged people to approach this film with caution until it had been properly investigated. This message was repeated by me in a posting to the BUFORA message area on UFOnet the following day. As was stated then, and repeated here, any form of physical evidence is only there to support the statements of the witness. In the case of each of these films the primary witness is the photographer. We have not had the opportunity to interview any of the alleged photographers. At least until that happens caution still needs to be exercised. Ray Santilli frequently reminds critics that there is no evidence to prove that the film material is fake, but it must be remembered that there is little in the way of evidence that it is anything; fake Roswell, genuine Roswell or evidence of something else.

If some UFO researchers are to be believed, the U.S. government has managed to keep most of the information about the Roswell incident secret for nearly 50 years. For the US government to now lose one top secret film would be unfortunate, to lose two films would be careless and to lose three would be incredible. But perhaps genuine UFO films are like buses; none come along for ages, then three come along together! (But if all the films turn out to be hoaxes, again like buses, perhaps they are all going to the wrong destination!)

Computer Index

During the autumn, BUFORA was able to establish a World Wide Web (WWW) site on the Internet. Information about the work of the Research section, including information about current projects, is available at this site. During early November data on over 1500 cases was sent to the manager of the WWW site at Eclipse and should be accessible soon. Whilst on the subject of the archives, I should mention Michael Hudson who has

carried out a great deal of work on the computerisation of BUFORA's records. Unfortunately, pressure of other commitments has meant that Michael has had to drop out of this project and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Michael for all his hard work over the years.

Meetings

The Research Committee meets approximately three times each year to discuss progress on current and future projects and to exchange results. These meetings are generally held at the University of Westminster, any member who would be interested in attending is invited to contact me. The next projected meetings are Saturday, 4th May 1996 and Saturday, 5th October 1996.

Review

Merseyside's Second UFO Mini-Conference

**25th November 1995,
Haigh Centre, Maryland
Street, Liverpool**

by Anthony Eccles

After weeks of discussing, planning and organisation by Mark Glover and myself, the conference opened to a room full of people. More than one hundred and fifty were in attendance.

With Steve Gamble's train unfortunately delayed for two hours, Peter Hough was to open the proceedings. Peter is chairman of the *Northern Anomalies Research Organisation*, a group based in Manchester and dedicated to investigating all forms of the paranormal.

Peter discussed two of his own investigations from the North West, with a view to focusing on three important aspects of UFO investigation: the witness, the object and the "umbrella of perception". This umbrella being that the witness can be taken out of their reality and placed into another. It was a valid point that many members of the public are unaware of

Peter's informative and sometimes humorous talk led us to the first of two intervals.

Steve Gamble arrived to give his lecture of UFO cases from Northamptonshire. Steve, as most of us will know, is BUFORA's Director of Research and his discussion gave us lengthy detailed accounts of a number of sightings investigated by him. He also elaborated on some research techniques that he has been involved in. Steve clearly showed the comparisons in

what many of the UFO witnesses had observed over various periods in time. Certain patterns were forming, but none were leading to a solution.

During the lecture, Steve announced future plans to organise regional and national skywatches. If this comes into being, then the Merseyside Research Group (to begin in 1996) will support the project by holding organised skywatches.

Steve ended his technical and informative discussion with a funny overhead. This depicted man and wife in a car driving quickly on a dark lonely road, with the woman saying to her husband (not verbatim), "Watch out Cyril, I think I see blue flashing lights behind us!" Of course, above and behind them is a glowing flying saucer.

After the second interval, Ken Phillips began his lecture about the *Witness Support Group*. This, of course, was a fascinating discussion that concentrated more on the witness than what was witnessed.

Again the audience became aware of another aspect of the UFO phenomenon, that a percentage of witnesses have experienced other paranormal phenomena. Many witnesses have had 'hidden' psychic experiences. Most are unaware of this. I know through my own investigations, that about half of the witnesses I have interviewed claim to have had psychic experiences

But, what does it all mean? Ken, in his honest approach, gave the audience something to think about. He certainly caught everyone's attention.

After the closing of the conference, both Mark and myself knew that the day had been a success. However, there is always room for improvement and this continues to apply for every conference we organise. From the feedback forms we distributed to the audience, it would seem that everyone enjoyed the event.

I would like to thank a number of people who made the event possible. To our speakers: Peter Hough, Steve Gamble and Ken Phillips; you're welcome to talk again in Liverpool! To the Haigh Building staff for all their effort and support: a big help. Also to Jane Barrett, a journalist who helped with our promotion and to John Hall for advertising. Finally to Mark Glover, thanks for sharing the blood sweat and tears.

Ray Santilli: Frequently Asked Questions

by Susan and Philip Mantle

In an attempt to clarify some of the points raised in 1995 regarding Ray Santilli and the alleged Roswell film footage, we put a list of questions to Ray at the end of 1995. What follows are those questions and Ray Santilli's reply. Make of it what you will.

Q: Who owns the Roswell footage. Is it you (Ray Santilli), Volker Spielberg, or both?

A: *At present myself and Volker (the cameraman also has a small amount).*

Q: Why hasn't a segment of film showing the 'creature' on it been released for analysis?

A: *Plenty of film has been released with a variety of images including images of the autopsy room. Giving away film with the creature would be a last resort as the frames are far too valuable. I think it is also unnecessary as it is part of the same material already released.*

Q: Why hasn't a clear copy of the 'tent footage' been made available in an attempt to try and identify the individuals depicted in it?

A: *We disregarded the 'tent footage' months ago. We have already suffered enough criticism regarding verification therefore in our situation we could only proceed with material we felt safe with.*

Q: Why did you state that you had seen President Truman in the footage and also that you had film of the crashed UFO?

A: *I mentioned this to a researcher in the early days, before we had completed the processing of the reels. It was a mistake on my part. I repeated what the cameraman had told me and expected no problem with the development of the film. Unfortunately the film on this reel was too badly damaged to retrieve an image.*

Q: Do you know that the film is genuine 1947 stock, but it does not depict an alien and in turn has nothing to do with UFOs?

A: *The film is 1947 film stock, however I do not know what the creature is.*

Q: After recent pronouncements on TF1 (French TV) that Jack Barnett died many years ago is there indeed a genuine cameraman?

A: *Jack Barnett is not the real name of the cameraman. If I had given the real name the world would be on his doorstep by now. Jack Barnett is a name that we (including the cameraman) adopted because it was a safe way of handling the problem.*

Q: What is your response to claims that the whole affair is just an elaborate money making hoax?

A: *Bearing in mind the money it would take to make this film and the number of people required to make it...it would be impossible for this to be a hoax. The financial return would not be worth it.*

Q: Why have the original film box labels not been made available for examination but only copies instead?

A: *I only have copies, the boxes were returned.*

Q: Is there any further film yet to be shown that has not previously been seen?

A: *Yes, but after this experience I cannot promise it will ever see the light of day while I'm involved.*

Q: Will the other autopsy film be released for public scrutiny?

A: *Yes, in time.*

Q: What is the correct name of the cameraman as Jack Barnett is known to be deceased?

A: *I will not give that information right now.*

Q: Do you have any idea why the so-called cameraman 'sent' the bulk of the original film to Washington but then asked for the remaining problem reels to be 'picked up'?

A: *He had nowhere to send the second batch as the departments were relocating therefore he asked for the second batch to be picked up, this problem was due to the split of the army/airforce apparently there was a great deal of internal confusion.*

Q: What is your reaction to those who state that the film looks like a transfer from video to celluloid and then back again, meaning that the original was on video and not 16mm.

A: *Complete nonsense.*

Q: Can segments of the original tent footage be made available for analysis.

A: *See above.*

Q: Can segments of the debris footage be made available for analysis.

A: *See above.*

These few questions may help to clarify certain matters while others may serve to cloud even further already muddy waters. Make of them what you will. Should any further developments occur surrounding Ray Santilli and the alleged Roswell film footage we will attempt to notify you of it in *UFO Times*.

Video footage from Argentina

report by Andy Roberts

South America has yet again been the focus for a dramatic UFO sighting which has been caught on video.

The Argentinian State news agency Telam reported that on Thursday, October 5th, 1995 a local cable-TV employee managed to shoot fifteen minutes of "high quality video footage". Cameraman, Gerardo Ferrero, was alerted to the UFO by a neighbour and immediately set his camera up to film the UFO, which he estimated was approximately 2 to 3 miles south east of his position. The UFO pulsed, "violet, green and red as it turned on its axis", according to Ferrero, and after bringing it into close focus via his tele-photo lens, he reported that he was able to see, "small windows in its circumference as it spun and moved up and down".

Throughout the filming, which only ended when Ferrero ran out of film, he had considerable difficulty keeping the object in focus. Subsequent digital enhancement seemed to indicate that whatever he had captured on film "had the form of a plate or saucer", which, "changed from place to place as though it was spinning".

The same news report also gave sketchy details of how the Argentinian air force were analysing the film, their interest strengthened by earlier reports from July of the same year, of a UFO said to be similar to the one Ferrero filmed seen to touch down on the flight path of Bariloche airport. The witness to this event, one Nestor Etcharte, claimed to have discovered, "three foot deep circular footprints" where the event took place and accordingly summoned Air Force investigators, who managed to retrieve samples of a "gelatine-like substance" from the immediate area.

Witness Etcharte alleges that this substance; a perennial finding at the site of many UFO events; solidified within

hours into a substance as hard as rock which cannot be cut or analysed. This UFO incident was also witnessed by passengers and crew of an airliner and ground crew at the airport, which lies some 1260 miles to the southwest of Buenos Aires who reported watching the UFO pacing the aircraft, which had to abort its landing to avoid colliding with the UFO.

The Air Force are continuing with their investigation into both cases and have already proclaimed Ferrero's video as, "unexplained". A hint of government conspiracy creeps into the news report when it finally claims that the Argentinian government has attempted to discourage any reporting of the Bariloche sighting due to the fact that a political summit was to be held in Bariloche in mid October with Latin American heads of state, Spain's King Juan Carlos and the president of Portugal due to attend.

Rather than take this news report at face value, we need to look at the problems and possibilities. As yet no one in the UK has seen the film so we can only comment on the report, and the report, whilst appearing exciting could have several explanations. Consider: Looking at this as a serious ufologist, with only the data in the news report at hand, what would immediately spring to mind as an explanation? Well, anything which appears to be stationary for any length of time, which is hard to focus on through lenses and which jumps and pulses with colour seems to indicate it is a star or planet seen low on the horizon.

Unfortunately we have only the basic facts to go on so this must remain supposition for the moment pending more facts on the case and a report from a ufologist who has seen the video. Similarly, the connection between the alleged UFO and the 'jelly like substance' and the 'footprints' is extremely tenuous as it stands at the moment. If the samples genuinely were unable to be analysed or cut we should await an official geologists' report on the specifics of the case before jumping to any conclusions.

The news report, taken by BUFORA

from an on-line news service went on to detail what seems to be an on-going 'flap' in the neighbouring country of Chile. A plethora of sightings in the vicinity of Chile's capital city, Santiago, reportedly led the country's armed forces to issue a security alert. Officialdom is taking the UFO sightings seriously following a spate of sightings from Rancagua, seventy miles south of Santiago where thousands of people reported seeing UFOs in the night sky.

The local daily newspaper, La Cuarta received an official security alert from the FACH 2nd Brigade's Aerial Operations HQ and reporters from the paper went on to interview witnesses to the UFOs, who described what they had seen as being, "large shining objects, mostly red on top and perhaps 10 feet in diameter, with an elongated oval shape and tail from which multi-coloured sparks flew as the objects moved away." This paucity of reliable and comprehensive information gives us little to go on again but most UFO events which have 'thousands' of witnesses invariably have a mundane and prosaic explanation.

South America has played host to some remarkable and singular UFO events over the past 50 years, yet none of the promise offered by the news reports or the investigators ever seems to come to fruition. Will these events occupy the same status or will they become a 'classic' ground traces, sightings and video evidence that enlarge our perception of the UFO phenomenon? *UFO Times* will be monitoring the case closely and will bring you an update in the next issue.

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Readers Write

The Editor, UFO Times,
BM BUFORA, London,
WC1N 3XX

Dear Sir,

Sorry to be late in responding to Ken Phillips' comments on my letter published in UT34. Sorry also to perpetuate controversy, but Ken made a statement which should not go unchallenged. He repeated his claim that (distant stars) *"are virtual point sources in that we do not see them as objects at all but merely see the light being emitted..."*

As I have already explained, the idea that distant stars are point sources is misleading and irrelevant; it implies that magnification is impossible (but everyone knows that it is). Now Ken makes matters worse by trying to differentiate between seeing an object and seeing the light it emits! In fact there is no difference and Ken's attempt at differentiation is nonsensical. We only see objects (even distant stars) by means of the light which they emit. It matters not whether that light originates with the object or is reflected by it.

James McDonald probably did not *"contemplate the mirage concept"* because he was convinced that UFOs are alien craft and even atmospheric physicists know little about mirages. They certainly know very little about astronomy. The fact that my hypothesis combines astronomy and atmospheric physics explains why it has escaped the attention of experts in both these fields. Only Menzel (an astronomer) recognized the phenomenon and he failed to apply it as he should have done.

Ken's claim that there is a *"conscious reaction between UFO and observer"* (a matter I did not mention) is also nonsense, as is most of what Harley Rutledge wrote. Those who believe that distant light sources react to their thoughts are deluding themselves; they are victims of their own imagination.

It is natural for a mystic like Ken to reject reductionism since it threatens to undermine his philosophy. However he has no justification for claiming that reductionism reduces us to *"moronic machines"*. Nothing is more likely to do that than the mysticism he espouses.

Sincerely,

Stewart Campbell, Edinburgh
explicit@cix.compulink.co.uk

Make Way for the Expert Witness

Dear Sirs,

Let me introduce myself. I am a lawyer who has prosecuted and defended both criminal

and civil cases for many years. I have recently stumbled into the world of ufology after acting for US Air Force pilots and a British Airways captain. I have attempted to apply analytical and judicial skills to the UFO evidence.

In the words of Miss Clarke, the prosecutor in the O.J. Simpson trial, there *"has never been so much evidence, to prove beyond reasonable doubt"* that UFOs exist and they are the 'nuts and bolts' variety. I have acquired more than 50 editions of serious research works, the latest by such authors as Timothy Good, Jenny Randles and John E. Mack. If the evidence so far accumulated were presented by the witnesses concerned in a court of law, either civil or criminal, this case would have been proved many times over *"beyond reasonable doubt"*.

In my opinion, therefore, the UFO community should move onto the next stage of the enquiry and not waste effort on analysis of events or photographs which add little to the already weighty body of evidence. The next stage is to address why this information has been concealed from the public and to analyse the validity of the suggested reasons. Various governments have commissioned, either internally or externally, e.g. Warwick University, studies on likely sociological, economic and religious consequences of alien contact. Has ufology conducted such research? Could it not be that a headlong dash to discover and reveal the truth could be irresponsible in the extreme?

An overwhelming impression I get having studied those in the forefront of ufology is the lack of formal qualification in an objective science, qualifying these so called 'experts' in the opinions and research they voice. The exceptions such as Stanton Friedman at the scientific end of the scale and Anthony Dodd in the investigative field are the equivalent of expert witnesses called during trials. However, they are rare. Even Timothy Good seems to be a musician and Jenny Randles, well I am still trying to discover.

In my view the majority of UFO enthusiasts are no more than that, enthusiasts. To a large extent in the past and I believe in the future the function of such enthusiasts should be to collect and objectively investigate reports in order to acquire the necessary 'evidence'. However tempting it may be to analyse the evidence and to voice opinions, these urges should be suppressed for the benefit of ufology as a whole. In my view only the 'experts' are so qualified and therefore capable of providing an opinion for the jury namely the public at large. Only then will ufology achieve the credibility it so desperately lacks at present.

Yours faithfully,

I Gadfly,
Cambridge

Editor's Comment: *I could write a very long reply to your letter. But I won't. All I will say is if your 'expert witnesses' talk rubbish then it is down to us mere enthusiasts to put them right.*

Can't Wright for Tofease?

Dear Editor,

As a reader of *UFO Times* for some years, I wonder if my comments may be of interest?

The magazine has certainly improved recently, with better production and more informative articles. I welcome what has been achieved. Unfortunately though, there is much to be done.

The biggest remaining problem, I think, is proofreading; or the lack of it, since every issue contains misprints galore. In number 36, for example, the article on Orson Welles' War of the Worlds broadcast was marred by the misspelling throughout of Orson Welles' name, and by the hilarious reference to part of New Jersey being placed under Marshall Law. (Who was he the local police chief?)

I wonder if more proofreading would get done if you published less often, so that you weren't rushing to meet deadlines. Bi-monthly is a high frequency for a little magazine. I subscribe to several poetry magazines, none of which is more frequent than quarterly and none of which contains anything like as many misprints as *UFO Times*. I think it would be worth reducing the frequency if that enabled much needed improvements to be made.

As I am sure we all agree, the UFO mystery is an important and fascinating subject. It therefore deserves to have a good magazine devoted to it; among other things, a magazine which people will take seriously, not laugh at. I very much hope that soon, as your programme of improvement continues, *UFO Times* will become that magazine.

With best wishes for the new year,

Martin Lyon,
London

Editor's comment: *Thanks for that Martin. I noticed that you did not offer to be that proofreader we so desperately need. Don't worry. As of this issue UT has a new proof reader and I hope you can see an improvement. However, mistakes will be made and I have to remind you that this magazine is produced voluntarily, relying on people's spare time.*

I do not agree that we should reduce the frequency of the magazine. It is my view that members would want to be informed more often not less. But, I wholeheartedly agree that improvements in this area are needed, especially as I am probably the worst speller in the English speaking world!

Diary

BUFORA National UFO Lectures

London

University of Westminster, 35 Marylebone Road, London, NW1. Admission: £1.50 members £3.50 non-members. Meetings start at 6.30pm, nearest tube Baker Street. Telephone 01444 236738 for further details.

- 6th April **Aliens & Time Travel** Jenny Randles
Are aliens time travellers? Britain's leading ufologist asks the question.
- 4th May **Video Evening** Miles Johnston
Miles brings together another popular collection of UFO news and material.
- 1st June **BUFORA Annual General Meeting** followed by 'UFO Question Time'
A debate and questions with a line-up of leading ufologists.

Newcastle

Nixon Hall, Ellison Place, University of Northumbria at Newcastle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Admission: members £1.50, non-members £2.50 (concession £2.00). Meetings start 2pm. 10 minute walk from Newcastle Central Station and main bus station. Contact Gloria Dixon - 0191-236 8375 for further information.

- 18th May **TBA** Malcolm Robinson

Liverpool

Haigh Conference Centre, Maryland Street, Liverpool. Admission: members £1.50, non-members £2.50 (concession £2.00) 10 minute walk from principle train stations with parking nearby. Contact Anthony Eccles on 0151-486 6087 for further information.

- 18th May **TBA** John Spencer
- 16th November **TBA** Philip Mantle

Other Events

- 14th March **BFSB Meeting** **Roswell Update**
Venue Quaker Meeting Rooms, 30 Gloucester Road, Horfield, Bristol. Starts 7.30pm
- 20th April **A Day of Abductions...** a one day conference delving into the claims of alien visitation
speakers include **Whitley Strieber**, Philip Mantle, John Spencer and Mike Wooten. See inside for further details.

Advertise your event here for **Free**. Contact Mike Wooten on 01352-732473

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