

# AWARENESS

22.4  
Summer 1998

SECRET

Sighting Summaries  
Crop Circle Update  
Revisited  
As a Navy Notes  
Underground in Wiltshire  
Another Meteor Storm'

CONTACT

INTERNATIONAL  
UFO RESEARCH

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August 1998

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THE LONELINESS OF THE LONG DISTANCE UFOLOGIST

The present time marks the 20th year of my participation in Ufology and the adaption of the well known 1960s play by Alan Sillitoe might well serve as my epitath.

In those 20 years I have reported not more than 5 possible UFO events to the group and all of these were indeterminate "lights" rather than structured craft. At no time have I seen an archetypal "saucer" or "cigar" or "triangle" or anything remotely resembling the alien forms described by others. That does not necessarily mean I think what other people have seen is hogwash, but I have not been so lucky, or more possibly, my psyche is such that I cannot witness a UFO. What little I have seen has occurred when not looking out for UFOs rather than at skywatches. Conscious attempts to tune in fail - only those with relaxed minds and no known interest in the subject seem to have the big sightings, apart from the occasional "serial" spotter that sometimes emerges. That seems to prove something.

Many times individual witnesses report seeing UFOs in crowded areas when people all around them see nothing. Even photographs of purported large craft taken by the witness turn out as pinheads when developed. This points to the witness(s) being directly effected in mind by some controlling force which is focused on them alone, and a sort of hologram is projected which is not a physical object. What the possible reason or purpose behind what this could be remains unanswered. In the same way "abduction" has all the hallmarks of stolen mind, and the few abductees I have investigated personally never showed what I would consider the marks of physical abuse or having probes stuck inside them. None-the-less the genuine fear and replicated timetables of many abductees indicates a phenomenon at work which we do not begin to understand. However I cannot see any evidence that the abductors are real flesh-and-blood, but are more likely the product of an induced mind state.

It was not until 1992, after 14 years of investigation, when I believe I made a breakthrough into some form of communication with whatever is out there. This was not exactly "seeing the light" as those who aspire to religious faith call it, but as the result of a physical experiment which thereafter made communication with "alien forces" a regular possibility. Six years on I have maintained communication and not been locked up yet, so maybe I am still sane! What we are dealing with are invisible forms of controlled energy or "spirit" which is the basis of all life. There can be no scientific proof of this but take it from me-----

Sad to say my 20th anniversary has been marred by a remarkable downturn in UFO interest in the past year after the big rise around 1995, when "X-Files" and the purported "alien body" story were all over the media. Unfortunately it seems that "marketing" and "hype" rule the roost these days, and fashions come and go in months rather than years. Most of the new, glossy UFO magazines on the newstands look to have gone within 2 years, and the bigger UFO research groups including ourselves are running into financial difficulties, but of course there are always new ones coming along to take their place. "Recycling" is something that always seems to work in this business!

As mentioned, our finances are becoming rather depleted, and there is unlikely to be any conference in 1998. The loss on the 1997 conference was around £200, and the audience was only half that of 1996 so risking another big show at the present time is not an option.

There is a major resignation pending on the council, to be clarified in the next magazine which WILL appear!

#### THE EDITOR

### NEWS IN BRIEF

**RENDLESHAM NEW EVIDENCE:** Newly published witness statements from the great Rendlesham Forest UFO mystery (Christmas 1980) indicate that American servicemen chased the Orford Ness lighthouse beam. Although several investigators suggested this was the cause of the event some while ago, the original statements of Staff Sergeant Jim Penniston and Airman First Class John Burroughs of the 81st Security Police Squadron have now finally come to light after 18 years. Burroughs wrote in his formal statement to base commander Col. Halt: "We got up to a fence that separated the trees from the open field and you could see the lights down by a farmer's house. We climbed over the fence and started heading towards the red and blue lights and they just disappeared. Once we reached the farmer's house, we could see a beacon going round and we went towards it. We followed it for about two miles before we could see it was coming from a lighthouse."

This statement does reveal that Penniston and Burroughs had originally seen red and blue lights before identifying a lighthouse beacon which normally beams a single red or white light, so the implication is they saw 2 separate sources. It is not clear from the mountains of material put together by several authors just what did happen on that Boxing Day of 1980, but the longer the debates rage the less likely is the truth to emerge-----

**SUDDEN DEATH OF STEPHEN SCHIFF:** The man who ordered the reopening of the Roswell investigation through the US General Accounting Office (GAO), Congressman Stephen Schiff of New Mexico, has died from an aggressive form of skin cancer at the age of 51 on March 25th. Schiff had been absent from Washington since last April, and naturally suspicions must be raised on the origins of his illness noting his interest in possible classified matters. He was also a member of the Air Force Reserve and had served brief stints in Bosnia and the Persian Gulf after the war with Iraq so the cancer could have been generated elsewhere or from exposure to the hot sun in New Mexico.



**COSMIC COLLISION FILMS:** The year 1998 is favouring a bout of disaster movies with planetary collisions of Earth and comets or asteroids - a popular theme. The general idea is that the planet's life systems would be destroyed by a collision of an object a few miles wide, with the possibility of monumental tidal waves and/or a complete "nuclear winter" scenario resulting from a land collision. In "Deep Impact" already released, we see attempts to scuttle a maverick comet on collision course. Land on it; drill 100ft deep holes and pop a nuclear bomb down the shaft was initially promoted as the answer! One would have thought something less complicated might do the trick, but who knows what the experts would do should the real thing occur. At least you could guarantee worldwide co-operation for about the first time ever! The next film "Armageddon" looks to offer more of the same.

Maybe the authorities are involved in the promotion of these films to prepare us for bad

news, but more likely making big bucks is the prime consideration!

**NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY REPLICATION:** After a period of poor results the editor is again achieving anomalous images on camera. An annual attempt to replicate the tapering beams from the sky (5 consecutive beam shots taken in the dark were found on a film from 1995, taken at Seaton, Cornwall) succeeded in obtaining one shot with a tapering beam in the bottom corner. A further 2 shots on this film taken at St Agnes in daylight showed a purple blob obscuring images. This was entirely unintentional, as on the best (or worst) example it covered over half the picture. A similar large blob appeared on a different film taken at a wedding 2 weeks later. The obvious inference is that a finger is obscuring the lens, but having taken 1000s of shots with the same cameras, this seems unlikely

A deliberate attempt to get images on film taken near Cuddesdon, Oxford revealed small white balls had returned after a long absence from photos taken by the writer. These have been dismissed as moisture in the atmosphere as they usually appear in wet conditions, but 9 pictures on this sequence were all taken on a dry sunny evening just before dusk.

**MORE "APPORTS" ARRIVE:** Data research member, Nick Rigby, found an arrow shaped stone lying on his lounge carpet during daytime on July 20th 1998. He had been in and out of the house regularly and could think of no natural explanation how this object had arrived - it being at least 8 ft from the nearest doors or windows. The stone was about 3 inches long, vaguely shaped like an arrowhead, and appeared to be some form of gritty limestone, but not found in the fabric of his period cottage or outside in the gardens.

Once again this stone or "apport" appeared to have a dowsable energy present similar to 2 other smooth pebbles which arrived on the premises of a colleague a few miles away. The significance of all this remains a mystery, but we will keep readers posted on future developments.

On the same tack, the crystalline white powder derived from Kleenex tissue rematerialised and found on May 23rd 1997 is still giving off heat and other energy. What power can create such an effect??

**RUSSIAN MIRROR IN SPACE:** Plans to illuminate Russian towns and cities by reflected light off a mirror suspended in orbit may possibly occur this Autumn. This would be a welcome sight for frozen, permanently dark places in Siberia, but might not go down too well in other countries with long daylight hours, which it will inevitably pass over. If it does happen expect a glut of UFO reports from uninformed witnesses.

**MARGARET FRY RETIREMENT:** Our longest serving investigator, Margaret Fry of Llangernyw, North Wales has announced her retirement due to ill health. Margaret has bravely continued against the pain barrier for some time, contributing a major article on the Berwyn Valley case of 1974, only in the last Awareness. She has also investigated for BUFORA and recently been instrumental in setting up a Welsh Federation of UFO groups as well as contributing to publications at home and abroad. Few people in their time have done so much for the cause and we wish her the very best for the future.

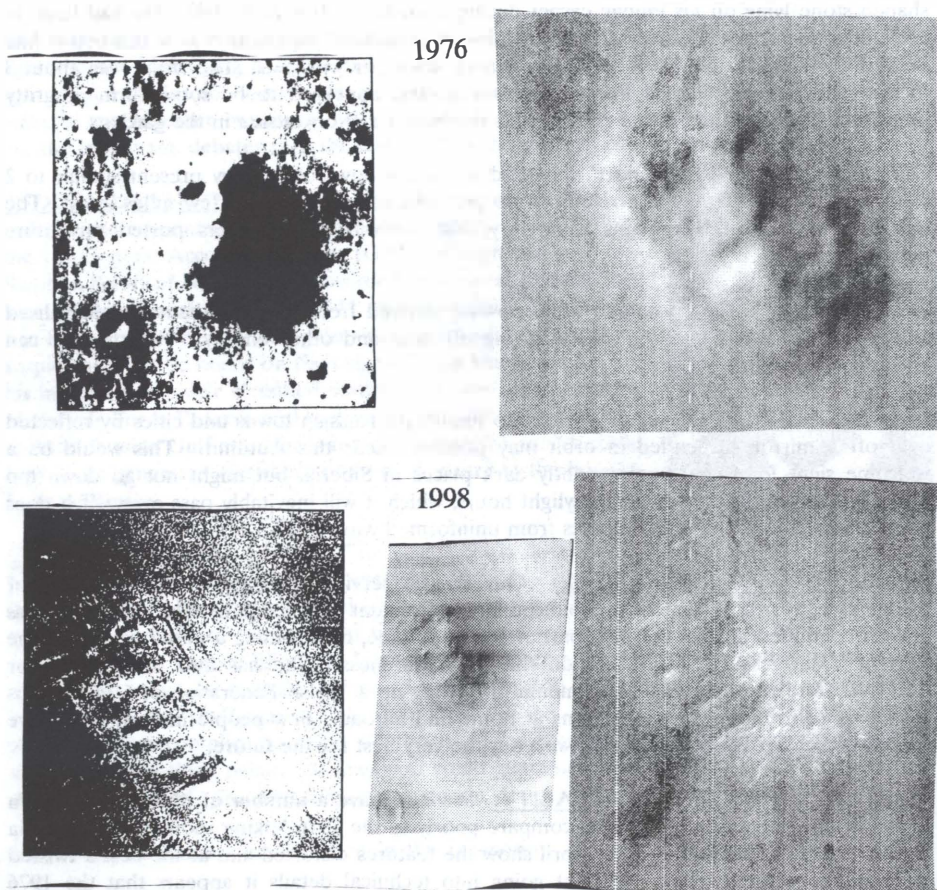
**MARTIAN FACE - THE 1998 REALITY:** We now have a number of photographs taken by the Mars Global Surveyor which compare poorly to the 1976 Viking shots of the Cydonia region. Pictures released in early April show the features distorted and at the best a "twisted grin" might be interpreted. Without going into technical details it appears that the 1976

versions were obtained by high magnifications and extreme contrast between light and shade so that all areas appear almost black or white on the face. When even illumination is seen on 1998 material, a completely different image emerges.

The Pharaonic head band which makes the "face" resemble the Egyptian Sphinx (and subsequent mass speculation by some researchers) is clearly a steep escarpment on the left hand side of the protruding rock formation and probably tapers away on the opposite side. "Features" are on a high plateau above the top of the escarpment. When bright sunlight comes in low from the left, the escarpment is illuminated together with high features on the plateau. Any depressions on the plateau appear dark. By a certain amount of conjuring a "face" emerged from the 1976 campaign, but even more conjuring will be needed on the 1998 survey photographs to make a convincing case.

None-the-less absurd claims of cover-ups and even that a nuclear explosion destroyed the face before Global Surveyor arrived still perpetuate what unfortunately looks to be a myth. We have yet to hear in detail about other features in the area which may be artificial.

#### COMPARISONS OF 1976 (VIKING) AND 1998 (GLOBAL SURVEYOR):



#### Data Research

##### 4 October 1996 - Rugby, Northants

The witness was up and about in the early hours of the morning, and looking out of his bedroom window at the clear, star-filled sky. Her attention was grabbed by an orange-coloured triangular object moving very fast from northwest to southeast. There may be some significance in the witness living less than 1 mile from the radio-telecommunications station at Rugby, source of the accurate radio time signals used by an increasing amount of domestic equipment.

*Source & Investigation: CIUFOR*

##### October 1996 - Rugby, Northants

In the mid-afternoon, in a grey and overcast sky, the witness saw a glowing white ellipse hovering over the town itself. The witness, who was walking near her home, an estimated 4 miles from where the object was, watched the object for 3 minutes before deciding to walk up nearby hill in order to get a better look, but on arrival at the location, she was disappointed to see that the glowing object had gone.

*\* Unfortunately no other corroborative reports were made known to us. \**

*Source & Investigation: CIUFOR*

##### 24 February 98 - Seaton Cornwall

At around 8.15pm, while walking his dog near his home, the witness noted an object traversing the sky from north to south. The main part of the object was ball-like, and seemed to be solid though glowing, and was blue in colour. From the rear of the ball, was a blue 'smoke' trail. The object seemed to be quite high, and was travelling slightly faster than a high-flying commercial jetliner, and travelled across the visible part of the sky in about 2 minutes. The sky itself was clear, but with no moon.

*Source & Investigation: CIUFOR*



##### 21 March 1998 - Horspath, Oxford

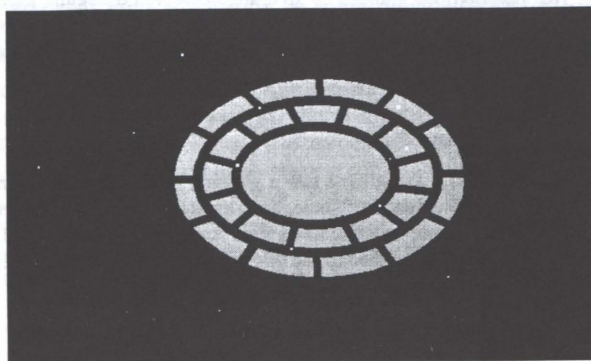
At around 10.15pm, the son in the family, who is very interested in general 'X File' material, excitedly urged other members of the family in the house to look outside. When they did, they were greeted by a stunning spectacle apparently over the fields, juts across the road from their home. They saw a large disk, or possible globe, of a most unusual cherry-red colour, surrounded by six smaller disks or globes, these were blue in colour. The six blue

objects were occasionally 'orbiting' the main red object. Occasionally pale yellow beams could be seen emanating from the objects and down to the ground, not from the ground up. The whole display was at about 45° elevation from the front of their house, and was estimated to have been less than 2 miles away. A curious feature seen on the main red object, and occasionally some of the small blue ones, was a grid-like pattern toward the edge, almost like the cross-hatching in the lens of a car's rear lights. The mother of the family did take several photos in an attempt to capture the spectacle, but the results proved disappointing. During this time, one of the family attempted to use a digital mobile phone, but was unable to get a signal, which was unusual for that network in that area.

The family, who by coincidence from a few years earlier, knew of Geoff Ambler's involvement in ufology, then went off in their car to alert Geoff, who then returned to the location with the witnesses. A further hour's observation was undertaken, and at various times wispy 'phantom-like' lights were seen, which Geoff thought were not unlike the effects from distant laser shows, but the family claimed was not like the earlier manifestation. More photos were taken by both the family, and Geoff, but no conclusive images were captured.

\* While this at first glance appears to be a laser display, we were unable to find anyone running a display that night. An important aspect to remember is that while there were some clouds at around 11,000', the witnesses were clearly looking directly into the display, at distinct circles, and not ellipses, that would have been seen if a light or laser beam had been hitting the cloudbase. \*

Source & Investigation: CIUFOR



#### 22 March 1998 - Horspath, Oxford

This sighting was made by the same family as the previous report. At around 3.15 am, BST, the clocks had been adjusted, the family were woken by the two dogs barking, which is unusual (In fact, the dogs, despite being crosses of various hunting hounds, were remarkably silent when greeting investigators who visited the house).

Members of the family went out on to the veranda, and now saw an even more spectacular display than just hours earlier. This new light formation was a little further west than the original, and was a large, near circular, yellow 'disk', surrounded by two 'segmented rings', which frequently spun, but always counter to each other. No beams were seen this time. The witnesses were quite adamant that stars were visible through all parts of the light formation, and behind it. yet more photos were attempted on a very good 35mm SLR camera, but while all shots seem to show curious bright objects, and comet-like images, there is nothing to corroborate the visual recollections.

\* The feature of apparent stars being visible in this instance is curious. Remember that these sightings were occurring when a team from Data Research were returning from the previous evening's visit to Rendlesham, and they reported total cloud cover on all the journey home from the Ipswich area, and indeed, there was frequent rain. At around the time of this sighting, they were in the Aylesbury area, and had rain there. The met office at RAF Benson indicated that their automated cloud recording system logged 8/8 cloud cover, probably a mixture of levels of altostratus, at no more than 11,000'. So the clear sky in this instance was quite localised. \*

#### 22 March 1998 - Horspath, Oxford

In the early hours of the Sunday morning, and just hours after another major display in the village, a whole family spent two hours watching numerous and varied 'light displays' of circles, rings and bars, all constantly moving, in fact they described it as "...like looking down a kaleidoscope...". The display was apparently still continuing while the family, who all confessed to having been "frightened", finally retired indoors.

\* The witnesses, who were independent from the other witnesses, seemed very confused as to the date of their sighting, altering the report form from the 21st to the 28th, and indicated it was the Saturday morning. During interviews, it became clear that this sighting was concurrent to the other sightings in Horspath that night, though the witnesses were far from clear just when they altered their clocks to BST. \*

Source & Investigation: CIUFOR

#### 22 March 1998 - Horspath, Oxford

Yet another report of bright 'light formations' in the Horspath area, and from a totally independent witness. The young man was outside in the early hours after a night's visit to the village pubs, and while he admits that he was under the effect of alcohol, he was certain of what he saw. This report was of five, or sometimes six, white balls, all 'orbiting' a common centre, and occasionally pulsing.

\* While the witness might be regarded as unreliable due to the effects of alcohol, he states that he would have been aware of any local late night discos or raves that would have been running light-shows of any description. He was adamant that there were none.

RAF Benson were able to provide us with details of an FAA registered laser display, but this was at Gurney's Garage a Vauxhall dealers, at Benson, and was not until the Monday night, indeed, it was seen by their personnel at 1.30am on Tuesday 24th March, and was of a single green-blue beam. Neither RAF Brize Norton nor Kidlington airport were aware of any FAA licensed light shows for that weekend. \*

Source & Investigation: CIUFOR



#### 13 March 1998 - Dursley, Gloucs

The witness (A relative of a Data Research team member), had been out with her daughter, and were returning home in their car to Dursley at 8.40pm, when they both noticed a series of bright lights through the thinnish layer of cloud above. There was a pale golden-yellow ellipse, surrounded by 12 smaller ellipses, arranged "...like on a clock face...". These 'satellite' circles were rotating slowly around the larger part of the object, and the whole group was moving about the sky. This group of lights was clearly not the moon, which was visible elsewhere through the altostratus cloud. The witness phoned her sister, who put her in contact with our investigations team, who conducted a phone interview within 30 minutes of the sighting. It was obvious from the tone of her voice, that the witness had seen something very unusual, and was very excited about it.

\* I am sure you will be reminded of the style of 'light display' seen at Horspath, Oxfordshire, just two weeks later. \*

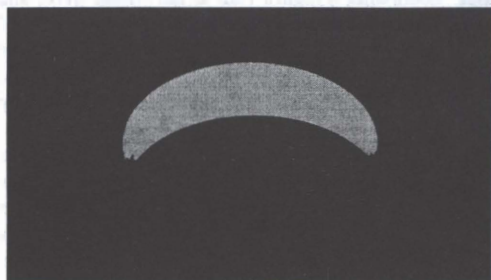
Source & Investigation: CIUFOR

#### 19 April 1998 - Torbay area, Devon

Not strictly a UFO sighting, but another of the mysterious, and ever increasing reports of 'power outages'. On this occasion, our consultant, Roy Dutton, was one of its victims. At 9.20pm, the power momentarily went off in his home, and Roy rushed to his window, just in case, and was able to see that much of the Torbay area was still without power, which affected over 16,000 homes. The next day the local media gave considerable coverage to the reason, a totally burned-out transformer at a sub-station

near Newton Abbot, a result of the transformer apparently exploding, and it was reported as being a total mystery to the SWEB. Perhaps coincidentally, the timing for this event did relate to one of Roy's predictive track lines for his area

Source & Investigation: T Roy Dutton C.Eng



#### 23 April 1998 - Bovey Tracey, Nr Newton Abbot, Devon

The *Herald Express* paper of Friday 24th April featured a UFO report, perhaps unfortunately seen over a pottery that makes teapots, so the sub-editor had a field day with the headline "Flying Saucer Seen Over Teapot Factory", but what else can we expect? However, thankfully, the UFO itself proved very interesting. It was seen by a security guard as he patrolled the factory

premises. A 'boomerang-shaped' craft was seen to swoop low over factory, quite fast. The craft had red flashing lights on its 'wing-tips', and despite its speed and low altitude, it was totally silent. The flying wing then came to a hover over the scene, before heading off across the countryside, in the rough direction of Moretonhampstead. Perhaps more importantly, if it had been on a direct course, it would have first come over Torbay and Newton Abbot. Our consultant, Roy Dutton, was able to interview the witness at the scene, and was found him very eager to tell his account again, even after reporting it to the police and an MOD official. The flying wing was possibly as low as 70', and was flying a course of 340°, at an estimated 200mph. The rate between flashes on the wing-tip strobes was about 1 second. The witness estimated the wingspan to have been the same as a Boeing 747 Jumbo-jet. A high flying aircraft, possibly a helicopter, flew over on a similar track a short while later. There is speculation that the red wing-tip lights may have been connected to some sort of infra-red 'night-vision' equipment. It should be noted that the police did take the incident seriously, and inquiries for illegal low-flights were made at the time.

Source & Investigation: T Roy Dutton C.Eng

#### Research Update

Flashes in the sky: A new cause for possible UFO reports for us researchers to check out is the Iridium telecommunications satellites. Originally named as there was going to be a network of 77 satellites (The atomic number of Iridium) for the next generation of digital mobile phones. The network will now only be 49 (Though they are not being renamed as Indium), but remember this is just one network - others will follow for other systems. These satellites have a disproportionately large-sized reflector dish, which can spectacularly reflect the sun back to earth. These flashes are short-lived but bright, sometimes up to magnitude of -8, twice as bright as Venus. These have been seen through cloud, and in daylight, but should not be above 45° elevation from the British Isles, and each has a visible 'footprint' on the ground of only 10 square km. When the full network is in orbit, two of these satellites will be visible during any day here in Britain. Some web-sites provide programs that can be used to predict the orbits of the known Iridium's already in orbit, and we should be able to check UFO reports against these known orbits. As you astronomers might imagine, these flashes are not exactly welcomed by deep-sky observers, who are having long time-exposure deep-sky photos ruined, and there are now false reports of supernovae resulting from these satellites. Another unwanted by-product of these satellites is stray EM radiation, that is increasingly infringing on supposedly protected radio-astronomy frequencies.

## AWARENESS READER'S FORUM RESULTS FROM QUESTIONNAIRE, APRIL 1998

By Data Research

The two page questionnaire was returned by 18 people in a 3 month period. This number should suffice to determine trends. Boxes marked are recorded in percentages of the total possible in any groupings.

Q1 What articles would you like to see in our magazine?

ABDUCTION - 56%      SIGHTINGS - 83%  
ASTRONOMY - 39%      GENERAL TECHNICAL ARTICLES - 40%  
HISTORICAL - 61%      CROP CIRCLES - 44%

Clearly "SIGHTINGS" are most important, but there is sufficient interest in other subjects to keep these running, say in every other magazine.

Q2 Would you like to read about other aspects of the paranormal?

STRANGE PHENOMENA - 67%      EARTH MYSTERIES - 56%  
GHOSTS AND SPIRITS - 28%      MYSTERIOUS BEINGS - 44%

From these results we conclude there is a good deal of interest in the above subjects.

Q3 Do you read Awareness from cover to cover?

YES - 89%      NO - 11%

Your editor is moderately chuffed!

Q4 What is your current belief in the UFO phenomena - what are they?

SOLID NUTS AND BOLTS - 33%      ALIEN CRAFT - 89%  
PARANORMAL - 22%      UNEXPLAINED/ NATURAL PHENOMENA - 44%  
EXPERIMENTAL SECRET CRAFT - 61%

On reflection, this question is a bit misleading as some categories overlap. E.G "Alien craft" may imply they are "solid nuts and bolts" but not many people ticked off both boxes. Maybe there is a trend to believing what we are seeing is not solid. A good many also think they are "experimental secret craft", but in peacetime conditions just how many defence projects would be kept "top secret" when members of the government have to make public pronouncements on the expenditure occurred on new technology? This does not apply however to dictatorships. It is still a mystery if Iraq has launched or still possesses certain chemical or biological weapons, and which of certain nations may possess the capability of a nuclear strike. It is likely that only the USA and the EU collectively now have sufficient resources to develop something exceptional and they are answerable to democratic governments.

Q5 Where do they come from?

WITHIN THE EARTH - 28%      FROM OUTER SPACE - 72%  
FUTURISTIC TRAVELLERS - 11%      TIME WARP/ DIMENSIONAL TRAVEL - 61%

There is a fairly clear indication that you believe UFOs come from outer space and use methods of propulsion far removed from what we have knowledge of.

Q6 What is your concise definition of a UFO? (Your comments).

Here it is exactly as reported:

- (A) Any anomalous aerial phenomenon whose appearance and behaviour cannot be ascribed to conventional objects or effects after investigation.
- (B) A sighting which the observer is unable, based on the information he has, to explain in a satisfactory manner.
- (C) The term is Unidentified Flying Object - unidentified due to closed minds-fear-dogma.
- (D) An event, usually involving "something flying" - that witness(es) cannot identify as anything in their knowledge/experience.
- (E) An unidentified object which we do not know the precise nature of at this present moment.
- (F) An object not designed on Earth and controlled by a higher intelligence.
- (G) Extraterrestrial craft from different dimensions, different planets etc.
- (H) Should be called "UEO" - Unidentified ENERGY Object(s).
- (I) A UFO is literally something seen in the sky and has not been identified. That doesn't mean it CAN'T be identified.
- (J) XT vessel, given time warp/dimensional travel from another galaxy or even ours.
- (K) An object that is in the sky, flying, and unidentifiable - or on the ground, but is capable of flying.
- (L) Vehicle capable of movements which cannot be explained which are not of our capabilities.
- (M) Lights or a solid object even if it does change shape or vanish that cannot be explained as aircraft or alike, and natural phenomena.
- (N) Something we cannot explain.
- (O) Constructed aerial object not originating from this planet.
- (P) Exactly as it sounds - unidentified until people can say without a doubt what it is, being satellites, planes, stars or in extreme cases Aliens that still hasn't been proved beyond a doubt.
- (Q) A UFO is truly a vehicle of more advanced technologically planets, and also from within the Earth.

Q7 There are many pictures of aliens about especially in the glossy magazines. Do you believe they are what they are claimed to be?

YES - 6%, NO - 44%, UNDECIDED/MAYBE - 28%.

Nobody is absolutely convinced on this - IE the pictures show real aliens. Some interesting comments received here:-

- (a) Not always. As far as I know, the only true picture of an alien was the picture Cedric Allingham took at Lossiemouth.
- (b) Open mind, awaiting proof.
- (c) Belief is not fact or fiction. Knowledge is something else!

Q8 What UFO magazines/videos/books are you interested in?

BOOK STAND MAGAZINE - 52% HARDBACK - 47%  
PAPERBACK - 53% MULTI-MEDIA - 7% VIDEO - 73%.

Most respondents ticked more than one box. Clearly video is now becoming the most used method of conveying information.

Q9 Do you have a favourite author?

The following names were mentioned at least once - some more than once as shown.

Timothy Good (5) Erik Von Daniken (2) George Adamski (2)  
Charles Berlitz Raymond E Feist Terry Brooks  
Ted Williams Jacques Vallee Donald Keyhoe  
Professor Hans Holzer Zacharia Sitchin William Gibson  
L Ron Hubbard.

No surprises here - the best selling author has top number of mentions, but certain major names are missing like Jenny Randles and our own founder, Brinsley I.e Poer Trench.

Q10 Do you belong to any other group or organisation which is linked to UFOs?

YES - 28% NO - 56%

Q11 Do you subscribe to other magazines?

YES - 22% NO - 67%

Q12 Do you browse the Internet?

YES - 11% NO - 89%

The Internet is still in its infancy in our subject; yet many 100s of pages of UFO related material are already available to subscribers.

Q13 Have you seen our Homepage number?

NOBODY apparently has! Please note it is:

<http://homepages.enterprise.net/hambler/contact.html>

Q14 Have you witnessed a UFO encounter? (Please describe).

The following answers were received:

- (a) About 3 years ago, a friend and myself were talking outside his house late at night. Something small flew past my right ear. I remember it being small, white and as though sparks came from it. I expected it to hit the ground as it headed down, but we found no trace of it. It was definitely not a firework.
- (b) In December '96, my wife and myself saw three lights in a triangular formation move slowly over North Oxford close to the ground with no noise.
- (c) About 20 years ago, an orange circular object passed overhead travelling from the NE to the SW very fast, and no other lights visible.
- (d) Yes, at least 40 - and most of these with other people - friends, family or even strangers. I have only seen a UFO when on my own twice - once in 1976 and then 1996.
- (e) Yes! I forgot data, but it was the night (9.30pm) the shuttle first docked with Mir. Small red/green/blue lights zig-zagging across the sky looking south from Abingdon (10 seconds).
- (f) Yes back in 1995 myself and friend witnessed a half moon shaped object, red in colour in my back garden.
- (g) Yes in 1973, several witnesses and myself saw 2 RAF jets chasing 2 disc shaped objects, white in colour going W-E. Then suddenly one of the objects turned south, but the 2 jets carried on going eastward after the other one. This occurred at Brockhill Secondary School, Saltwood near Hythe, Kent in 1973, about 0.900 hours and was my first sighting that got me interested in UFOs.
- (h) No I haven't, but I think I may have seen a "grey" in my bedroom when I was young (8-9 years old).

(i) Yes, large disc some 40 odd feet wide, perhaps 35 feet away at 5 feet of altitude in Lincolnshire.

(j) Yes, stationary light which through 20x binoculars appeared as a disc with compartment underneath. It faded slightly, then vanished. Seen Oklahoma, August 1988.

(k) Three years ago I saw a NL which manoeuvred at angles and speed impossible for terrestrial craft.

(l) I HAD seen a red stationary UFO when I was a child; a red and slowly flying UFO in 1982, and "THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM" UFO in 1985.

(m) Many moons ago I saw lights dancing in the sky, then fly off at great speed. It was early spring, about 9.30, and I and others couldn't explain it.

Overall YES, 61% have seen a UFO.

Q15 Are you interested in taking part in skywatches or taking part in a mutual skywatch with exchanges of information?

YES 50% NO 28%

Q16 Are you interested in localised Oxfordshire area meetings? (Any preferences.)

YES 17% NO 67%

Question is probably irrelevant as most respondents were from outside the area.

Q17 Would you like to assist in Data Collecting and analysis work?

YES 56% NO 28%

This needs looking into.

Note no replies from Data Research or Council members are included. Many thanks to all those who responded.

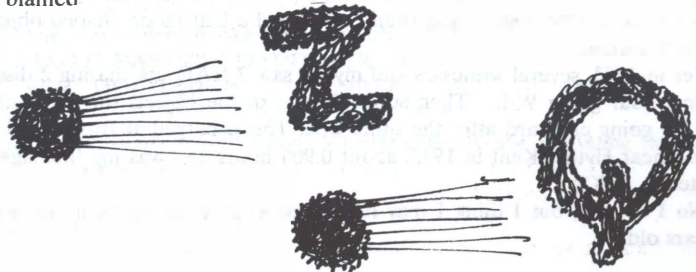
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## METEOR INVASION - JUST WHAT IS GOING ON?

By Geoff Ambler

For the third time in 1998 another mass display of lights, explosions and vapour trails was reported on the night of 10-11th July. The usual hundreds of witnesses phoned in from Cornwall to Scotland including many from parts of Ireland. It looks as if the object(s) was moving around the west coast of England and Wales, and up through the Irish Sea. In addition to all this, several witnesses reported seeing giant letters of light in the night sky, forming "Z" or "2" and "Q".

In spite of coastguards in Ireland viewing activity for up to an hour around mid-night on Sat July 11th, and the presence of the letters, the usual "fob offs" of satellite re-entries and meteors were blamed



Similar activity was reported on March 15th over Devon and Cornwall (see last Awareness) and June 11th when a mass spectacle over a broad swath of England was seen around 11 pm. There were no less than 288 calls to police and coastguards in a 90 minute period. A witness driving a car through the New Forest reported on radio that the whole sky lit up. Newspaper reports went into great detail about meteor showers.

Awareness has reported such sporadic events since 1992, but it is now noticeable that the frequency in 1998 has leapt to 3 displays in 4 months. Astronomers and the MOD are considered the "holy grail" in explaining what it was on each occasion, but if you ask the wrong people the wrong questions -----

So what are the questions we need to ask?

1. How often are freak meteors to be expected - I.E Ones that light up the sky?
2. Why do most of the events occur outside the dates when the highest concentrations of meteors are expected? E.G Perseids on August 11-14th.
3. Why are these "meteors" present for several seconds when we know that the bulk of them pass over in the blinking of an eye.
4. Are "smoke" trails associated with meteors?
5. Are noise and explosions associated with meteors?
6. Can meteors be seen when driving along in a car?
7. Is it possible for meteors to make letters or numbers in the sky?
8. Why has no debris or landed meteorite ever been found after one of these major incidents?
9. Is it possible to see meteors in daylight as one or two cases have reported?
10. How many colours have been associated with meteors? In particular the objects under investigation are usually described as green or blue.
11. Why during the peak of activity have witnesses reported the objects as slow moving or stationary?
12. Why have meteors been reported in steady horizontal flight at low altitude on many occasions?
13. Can meteors be seen when the sky is cloudy?

If you can answer any of the above please write to headquarters.

From personal experience, even on August 12th, the night of maximum activity of "Perseids", in the average year, it is difficult to spot meteors in well lit areas especially if walking or driving. Only going to a very dark area and laying prone with a steady view of the sky can one pick out movement. At no time has the sky been lit up, and one would suggest this situation is extremely rare with natural phenomena.

By a simple calculation with a meteor entering Earth's atmosphere at 25,000 mph re-entry speed, or 6.94 miles per second, the time it is visible to a person with a 7 mile horizon is 0.99 seconds. For somebody on very high ground with a maximum horizon of 20 miles, the time visible is 2.88 seconds. In practice, the average witness not out skywatching could see barely a mile on level ground in a built-up area, and be hampered by artificial street lights, thus reducing the visual experience down to below 0.25 seconds. So what is it that is normally reported for 4-5 seconds in passing and so bright it causes witnesses to ring the emergency services in a panic??

Historically there have been spectacular and well charted meteor showers such as the



Leonids on 17th November 1966 when visible meteors flashed at 2000 a minute during the showers peak. There is another huge predicted display of the Leonid shower in November 1998 when the Earth will pass through the densest area of this particular group as it did in 1966. We should then make comparisons with what has been reported over the past 6 years and the actual visual spectacle of these Leonids, plus how many reports to UFO groups and emergency services are generated.

The following is a list of the major events we have detected over Britain since 1992. There have also been many individual reports of blue smoky tailed objects passing overhead which may not have been bright enough to engender a massive panic response:-

(1) AUGUST 16th 1992. Time 10.30 pm -12 midnight.  
Mass sightings over Wales, Midlands, North West and North East England.

Quotes: Former seaman Wyn Lodwick was travelling from Brecon to Llandoverly when he saw it. "In all my years at sea I have never seen anything like this before. It was a blue ball flying at aeroplane height with a tail about half a mile long" he said. "The whole valley lit up like day-light. It was quite frightening." (Western Mail Cardiff, 18/8/92)

Object sighted over Lincoln at 11.45pm. Witness stated: "I'm 50 years old and have seen 2 shooting stars in my time - this was not the same. The light was so bright and moved across the sky in a couple of seconds. It was too fast to be an aircraft and there was no sound. I swear on a stack of bibles I saw something last night. The thing was coming across the city about 300ft up in the sky, and it flew 3 miles across in about 4 seconds. (Lincoln Daily Echo - Lincoln 17/8/92).

(2) MARCH 30-31st 1993. Time Midnight to 2 am.  
Seen over South Wales, Devon and Cornwall, most SW counties, Ireland and France.

The well known case that Nick Pope investigated for the MOD and concluded that there was unexplained activity inspite of the big "fob off" that a Russian spent satellite had re-entered the atmosphere at the time of the incident. More and more reports of the night have come to hand recording moving objects, stationary objects, fast moving, slow moving; over 5 countries - some before and after the main period of activity. Truly a night to remember!

(3) MAY 29th 1994 - Daylight sightings over East Anglia and south coast of England - also over Holland and Belgium from 10.30 am to noon.

On this Bank Holiday monday over 500 people rang police and coastguards with reports of coloured lights ranging from an orange glow to red, blue, siver and white. Many thought they were distress flares from ships in distress in the channel or aircraft. Nothing was ever found on the ground. The explanation was a meteor storm seen in broad daylight!

Quote from the Times: "I saw a huge orange flame tinged with red in the sky. Suddenly a black object flew out of it leaving a trail of white smoke." - Ed Attewell, Colchester.

(4) JANUARY 19th 1995 - Blue, tailed object running north-south down centre of England at about 6.35pm.

Witnesses reported this on a line running from Oxford/Didcot/Reading/ Southampton/Bourn -emouh and other sightings outside outside this trajectory came in at about the same time.

The object was in rapid horizontal flight, and seen for 5-10 seconds only. most estimates put it at only 500ft above the ground and hugging the contours like a Cruise missile. It was totally silent. Witness living next door to the writer has never forgotten the experience.

(5) JULY 28th 1995 - Friday night just before mid-night, over Scotland and NE England.  
A brilliant fireball moving at great speed seen as far south as Buckinghamshire. British Astronomical society declared it a very powerful meteor.

A witness in Anstruther, Scotland said "it lit up the whole street, and was red like a football." A Montrose woman spotted "a blue football that floated in an arc like a brilliant firework". A Kinkealdy bus driver saw a yellow flash followed by a big blue flash. He said "I've seen shooting stars before, but this was nothing like that. It was much bigger than I've seen before".

There was a gap in similar activity apart from many individual sightings of blue balls and smoky tail during 1996-7. However in 1998 it is back with a vengeance with multiwitnessed incidents on March 15th, June 11th and July 10th.

For fuller details of earlier events see Awareness Vol 18 No 4, Vol 19 No 2, Vol 20 No 2, Vol 20 No 4.

## SIGNS IN THE FIELDS 19TH YEAR

by Geoff Ambler

Crop circles returned to English fields on April 19th with a double formation in a crop of rapeseed at Weyhill near Andover, Hants. Soon, several other formations including a brilliantly executed "ring of fire" or "Beltane Ring" arrived opposite Silbury Hill, Wilts in early May. An excellent view of this was obtained from the A4 road and from the path leading up to the well known West Kennett longbarrow. The ring contained 33 " tongues of flame ". lozenge shapes of standing crop equally spaced within. A complex layering method must have been derived to produce such a startling effect in a crop almost impossible to trample by mechanical means. After forming on May 4th the "Beltane Ring" was clearly visible for a month before subsiding into the usual jungle of browning rape plants. Even after cutting, the outline of this amazing formation can be seen from the top of Silbury Hill.

This particular formation heralded a bombardment of many others within 10 miles of Silbury Hill in rapeseed, barley and wheat. At the time of writing (mid July) there is no let up in the number of arrivals arriving, ranging in quality from brilliant to awful. The best appear to be a star/ pentagram type at Avebury resembling a structure at Bythorn, Northants in 1993, and another Koch fractal came down in the celebrated East field at Alton Barnes on July 9th. Driving along the A4 main road on July 8th, 7 formations were spotted between Hungerford and Beckhampton without leaving the car. With over half the arrivals in one area, there is the inevitable lure to hoaxers and careful analysis of what is paranormal and what is not, will need to be done.

Elsewhere there has been a steady stream of finds in Hampshire, though none at the old hot spot of Cheesefoot head, Winchester, which folded after 1995. The odd few good looking advanced formations have appeared in Somerset and Dorset with a well made floral design near Shepton Mallet (visible to Glastonbury Festival patrons) and a complex design

surrounded by a ring of 40 circles at Blandford Forum. An exceptionally well made pentagram was reported from a remote area of Buckinghamshire, just south of Silverstone Circuit on July 4th. This has been viewed and flown over by the writer, and was only visible from the air. It caused a stir on Central South television and in the local papers. See illustration below. Note the 2 sharply formed mystical signatures, one in the shape of an Egyptian "ankh", the symbol of eternal life. A third signature was also found on the ground survey of the field. A chilling discovery on assessing the map reference point - it was found to be on line "666", the Devil's number. This might have given the game away that it was a hoax to some people, but looks to be another example of the "Cosmic Joker" in action as we have been reporting for some time now.

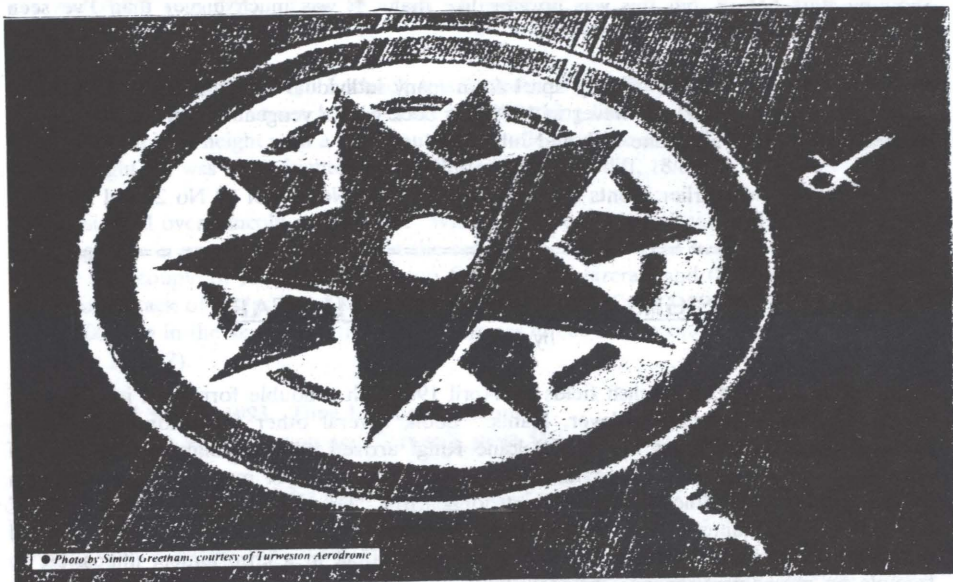


Photo by Simon Greetnam, courtesy of Turweston Aerodrome

#### PENTAGRAM FORMATION 200FT DIAMETER AT DADFORD, NORTH BUCKS.

Overall the number of formations for 1998 looks to be well up on 1997 levels. This is mainly due to an extremely hot, hot-spot within 10 miles of Avebury. Extremely wet and windy conditions in June and July have ensured wind damage in every field almost without exception and late harvesting of the barley crop. The final stop press in the south of England is that a sudden heatwave in early August should mean most of the wheat will be harvested on time after all, but less likely in the north. Flying over the Avebury area on August 9th was an awesome sight with huge, complex formations packed 2 to a field - certainly far more than ever seen on one flight before.

The wonders of the Internet now make it very easy to find out the latest situation with new formations being on line within hours of being discovered, and photographs by our top aerial snappers usually following within 3 days. Never has a phenomenon and a new technology been more suited! Final reports in next Awareness.

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## A TRIP TO RENDLESHAM

Data Research 'Away Team'

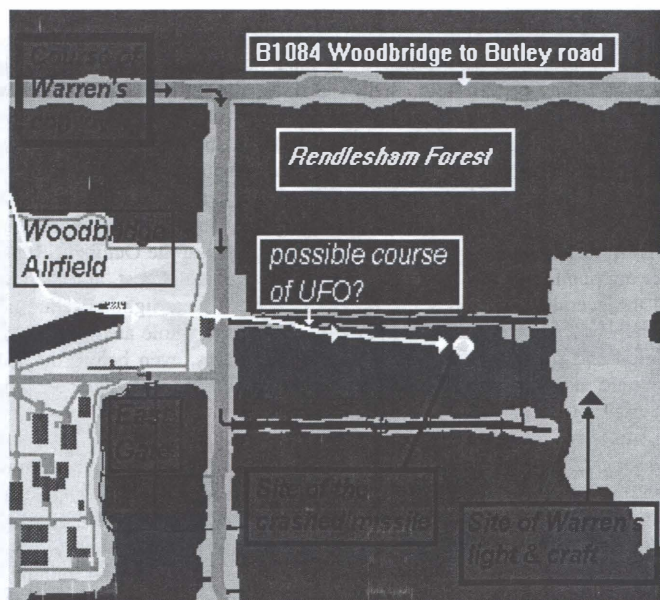
In March this year, a group from CIUFOR were invited to join in a skywatch by the Essex UFO Research Group (EUFORG), at Rendlesham Forest in Suffolk. The location, of course, of the famous 'UFO crash' of December 1980, perhaps Britain's most important UFO event? The Rendlesham Forest itself spans most of the ground between the now former USAF controlled airbases of RAF Woodbridge and RAF Bentwaters. Other, perhaps significant RAF installations, such as the very secure experimental electronics research base at RAF Bawdsey (Incorrectly transcribed as "Bordzey" in the book by Larry Warren and Peter Robbins), are also near to the location.

EUFORG members regularly organize skywatches by a road near to Woodbridge's eastern perimeter fence, just off the old runway threshold, in fact close to the East Gate made so well known by Larry Warren. When we arrived, we were told of the many and varied odd happenings that had been witnessed at the forest on past skywatches, and not just the obvious unidentified flying craft, but mysterious glowing balls of light, shadowy creatures like manta-rays flying round, and amorphous light beings among the trees - we hoped for an interesting night! It is worth noting that the forest now is very different to 1981, not just because of the large scale felling of trees and general clearing after the 'crash', but also after the terrible localised effects of the October Storm of 1987. The remaining trees are about two thirds of the height of the original forest, and there has been much replanting, but the overall views, particularly towards Orford Ness lighthouse are now very different. It is still a rather atmospheric, if not spooky place, and the whole area does have a long history of pagan religion and ritual, and has many tales of hauntings, even before the 1980 UFO event occurred. It should also be remembered that this part of East Anglia has seen other important UFO cases since the 1950s.

Our hosts took us for a look at parts of the perimeter fence of Woodbridge, and the infamous East Gate itself, and at some of the hardened aircraft shelters very close to the eastern edge of the field, this is where the various combat aircraft, such as the A-10 Thunderbolt's, were kept in a state of readiness while the Cold War was at its height. This huge airbase is now a shadow of its former operational self, being deserted at weekends, although during the week it is used during training by the various aircraft from operational airbases in East Anglia. For those of us who had read Warren's account in *Left at East Gate*, it was still difficult to work out just which logging track the convoy had travelled down, as two tracks go off eastwards into the forest, running parallel to each other, and both are about equally spaced either side of the entrance road leading to Woodbridge's east gate. If you approach East Gate from the road, there is also another narrower logging track branching off to the left, into a totally different part of the forest, and this might confuse visitors to the site. There are still one or two aspects of the accounts that seem odd, such as the description of the convoy driving at speed through the village of Eyke, when a more obvious road, and a shorter route, was to branch off the Bentwaters - Eyke road before reaching Eyke, indeed this minor road turns off immediately after Bentwaters base, and runs alongside the perimeter of the base. How familiar were the driver's with the local geography?

The real bonus of the evening was the visit by local researcher Brenda Butler, who along with Dot Street was foremost in the early investigations of the 'Rendlesham Incident'. Brenda took us on a tour into the forest, and to the site where she knows there was a crater and missile-like object in the ground. This was seen by a local gamekeeper, when he observed just three fireman, in all-over heat-resistant suits, dealing with the area (It is worth remembering that even in winter the forest floor can be relatively dry, so why did this crashing object not cause a significant fire? A quick recall of the ill-fated amateur rocket launch on Dartmoor recently should serve as a reminder of

what could happen). It is interesting to note that these three fireman were the only ones at the site, there were no large numbers of military personnel with security cordons around the area, at least on this first night of events. We were also taken to see where the object claimed to have been seen on the subsequent night(s) by Larry Warren had been, which was about 500m from the other site. It should be noted here for all our readers, that the only light from Orford Ness lighthouse visible from here was the scattered light reflected up into the mist as the beacon sweeps round. The full light of the beam is not visible here, and this is with much smaller trees than were there in 1980. In fact from the ridge at the edge of the forest, the light from Orford is not particularly bright, as the ridge is above the lighthouse's focused beam - so no more believing Ian Ridpath's ridiculous UFO explanation!



It is clear that there were at least two nights of activity. The first night, 27th December, was when something did crash at Woodbridge, possibly first hitting the end of the runway, before bouncing out over the fence and into the forest, supposedly smashing the runway's approach lights in the process. The object finally came to rest over a kilometre into the forest, and was seen by the gamekeeper. On subsequent nights there was a lot of aerial activity, possibly helicopters engaged on searching or surveying the area, possibly

checking for radiation? All of the reports of glowing pyramid-shaped objects moving among the trees surfaced much later in the whole history of the Rendlesham incident. There is no doubt that in the following days and weeks after the original crash there were a large number of movements of aircraft not normally seen at the two bases.

So what did crash, what was so sensitive that caused the eventual security operation?

- Speculation still exists, but surely we can rule out a conventional cruise missile, as it would hardly have warranted such a secrecy operation.
- Was the object an experimental craft, possibly nuclear powered - at least this might explain some of the secrecy. It should be remembered that this event was just two days before the Cash/Landrum sighting at Huffman in Texas, which was plainly of a nuclear vehicle being escorted by a fleet of military helicopters.
- Could it have been a faulty controlled landing of a satellite, much as the Russian's do with their space capsules, using retro-rockets to soft land, as opposed to the splashdown technique formerly favoured by the Americans. I wonder if the increasing number of reports in recent years of bright meteor-like balls of light coming to ground, often reported as crashing aircraft - which are never subsequently found - could be of some similar re-entry and soft-landing technique?

Back to the present day...

In one part of the forest there is an old brick-built bunker, which has had the air vents recently blocked up. The door had already been forced, and we had a look inside, but it was quite bare, though there was a noticeable draft coming up from a channel round the edge of the floor, so there was still air movement to some sort of tunnel underneath! While we were being taken through the forest, we were shown a rather macabre scene, of a fenced-off large pit dug into the sandy soil, which was being used for burying deer carcasses. This was not the first pit that had been dug and used in this way, though quite why this culling and burial of deer was happening no-one knows.

Back to the skywatch...

For once, we had a wonderfully clear night, with only a little mist to our east, in the direction of the close North Sea. Unfortunately, despite the conditions, and the connections of the site, we had no UFOs to see. There were the occasional odd lights up the road, or through the trees, but these may have been torches of various people who seem to frequent the area at night, as the area is building up something of a reputation, and is attracting people who have little interest in UFO research. Perhaps this is not surprising when many of the skywatchers who arrived late at night came dressed in full camouflaged combat gear, including balaclavas, and walk round carrying combat and commando knives - one even claimed to have had a handgun in his car!. The early hours of the morning were livened up when we were all on another walk round in the forest near East Gate. Gunfire-like sounds were heard, and then we were told via walkie-talkies that we were being followed. We were treated to a 'yomp' through the woods in darkness, in an effort to 'outflank' our supposed pursuers. There are obviously mysteries to be solved in the area, even if they are paranormal and not of 'nuts and bolts' UFOs, and I hope that the researchers concentrate on explaining the anomalous phenomena.

All in all it was an interesting and entertaining visit, and was made all the better for meeting Brenda Butler, who gave us such a good account of the reality behind the myths that many of us had read in various books. I would recommend a visit to the area if you can, even in daytime, as the aspects of all the books take on a whole new meaning when you stand in the forest. Reading back through the accounts now, every aspect of the encounter is now brought into sharp focus, and it is possible now to visualize the entire event as if one was there. Having been to the site, it is now difficult to see how extracts of the 'Halt tape', that were leaked, represent the actual recording made in the woods on any night. The tape lacks any sort of background noise, such as might have been expected from footfalls in amongst bracken, or the movement of tree branches as the people brush past them. On our next visit we will endeavour to make our own tapes, both audio and video, to see just how a 'real-time' recording does sound.

The next day we checked with EUFORG, but no sightings had been made. We also learned that perhaps true to form, the *Cosmic Joker* had struck again, as while six of us were up at Rendlesham, a UFO event spread over many hours was happening back at Oxford - thank you Q!

One of the photos that had been taken in the clearing, where the EUFORG members described several odd encounters, including seeing the 'jellyfish' entities amongst the trees, did show one of the now characteristic amorphous feint white shapes straight in front of the camera.

## VIDEO FOOTAGE - PROOF OF UFOs?

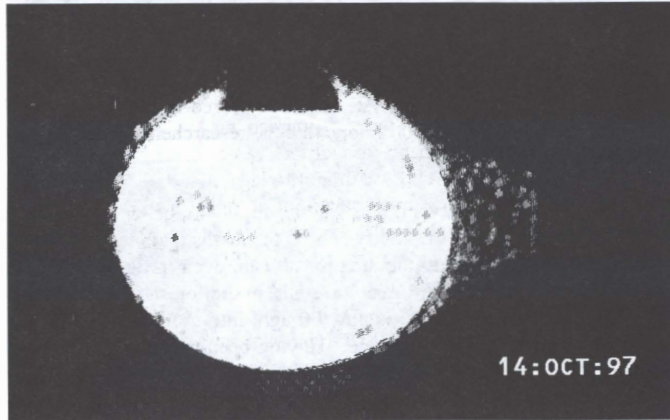
B P James

I think that you will all agree that UFOs are a very visual phenomena. How many of us hope for a photo or video record of an unusual object in the sky, whether it is by day or night? In past issues of Awareness we have looked at how the film camera can record images beyond the scope of the human eye. Now, we will try to look at video images, and how the home video camera can totally misinterpret what is seen by the naked eye.

How many of you reading this have camcorders, whether they are 8mm or VHS-C, or indeed digital? How many of you have gone outside at night, and taken video footage of quite mundane celestial objects, such as planets, stars, or conventional aircraft?

I have only relatively recently entered the world of the home video, but I have been alarmed at the images of conventional objects that I have taken. For various reasons, I have had the opportunity to use three different makes of 8mm camcorder, and four different models, but all have produced curious anomalous images.

Take a look at this reproduction of a night-time image, taken last October, by a well-known budget camcorder. What exactly was I pointing the camera at? This



sort of image has been seen many times in supposed footage of a UFO, and sometimes has an even more 'Batman-like' appearance. In this image, we see a distinct cut-out section in the upper half, and there is a clear trail going across to the right, suggestive of a propulsion system. In fact the camera was pointed at the planet Jupiter, and was at its maximum zoom of 30x, and with manual focus engaged.

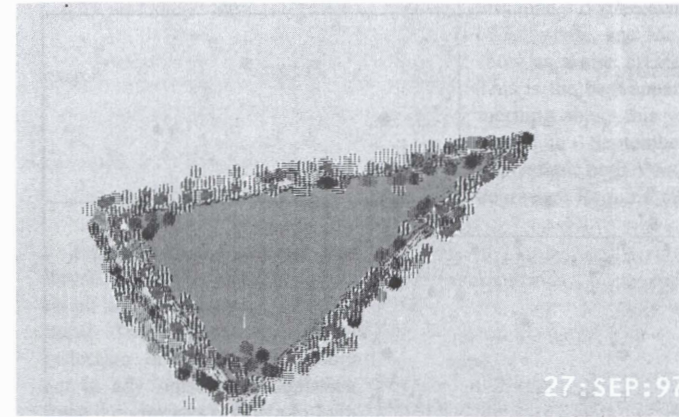
The notch in the top is a quirk of the shutter system on that camera, and the trail is a simple fault in the image processing system, when it sees a bright image against a dark background, and is caused by the scanning system as it scans left to right, the same as normal TV picture is built up. I would ask readers to remember this fact, we will return to it later on.

During the October 1996 Oxfordshire 'Airship Flap', two witnesses grabbed their new camcorder to record the bright light travelling towards Oxford. Unfortunately, the camera only had auto-focus, and it was unable to keep track of the lighted object as the witness tried to follow it. Consequently, the footage repeatedly shifts between a small light, and a large dim blob. If any of you are fortunate enough to see and object, and have your camcorder handy, do please set it for manual focus, and use the focusing wheel to get a clear image - I know it may not be easy during a possible rapidly transiting event, but please try.

Last year we received footage taken of a daylight Flying Triangle taken at Boston, Lincs. This was taken with a digital camcorder, and even up to a zoom of 64x. The witness, who was familiar with all manner of civilian and military aircraft over the area, estimated the FT as being the same size as a Tornado fighter-bomber. By the time the witness was able to power up his camcorder, the object had travelled some distance away, but his 64x zoom should have made up for that. Unfortunately, even at

maximum zoom, the object only appears as an indistinct dark shape, very small in the frame, and as a result the footage was inconclusive, and could not confirm the visual sighting.

Here we have another image, taken on the first day I had taken delivery of a new 8mm camcorder, and



reproduced many times afterwards. This seems to show daytime footage of the well-known flying triangle, did I capture the FT on one of its flights across southern Britain? Again, I will remind you that this is a conventional object, so what is it?

Does the blurred delta-like shape give any clue? In this case, sadly it does not. What the camera was actually being pointed at was a Boeing 737, flying out of Heathrow airport, and again the camera

was on its maximum zoom of 30x, and was set with auto-focus, which was capturing the image very badly. This same triangle or delta shape was seen on countless occasions when I aimed that camera at conventional aircraft, including Boeing 747 'Jumbo-jets', as they passed almost overhead, while the camera was set to auto-focus. When I first saw this image through the camera's viewfinder I was very surprised. Surely an even out-of-focus conventional aircraft, with its fuselage, and broad centrally-placed wings, would look different to this, perhaps even a diamond-shape, but no. all were misinterpreted as a delta-shape.

Remember I mentioned about the scanning lines moving left to right as a TV picture is built up? Now, I would ask you to remember alleged UFO footage that seems to show a spinning object. How many of these lights or solid objects seem to spin left to right, as seen from the camera? If you think back to the classic 'hockey puck' from the Mexican footage, these too depict an apparent object spinning left to right, and this is when the image has been drastically enlarged to enhance the original small object. I would be far happier if more video footage of rotating or spinning objects, actually showed a rotation going right to left, namely against the scanning motion of the camera's CCD.

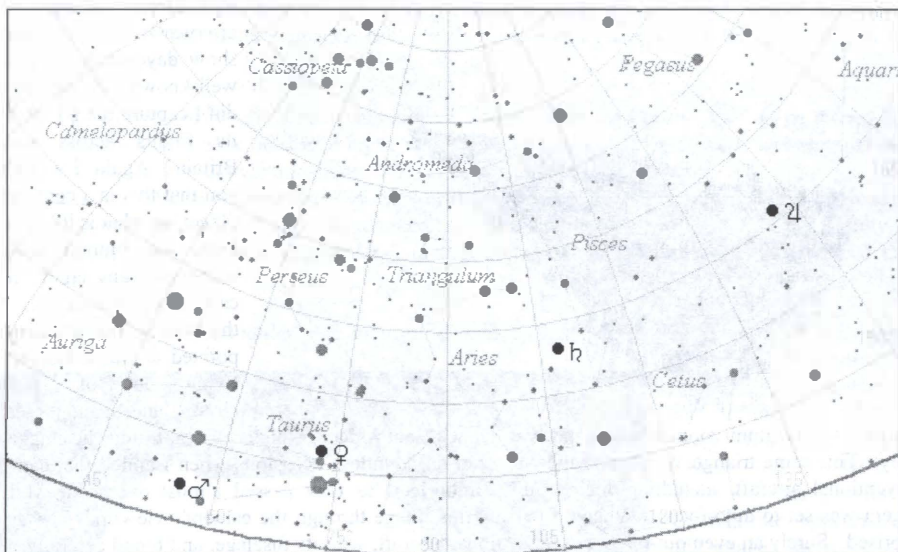
We should be very critical when viewing video footage, even more than film footage or still photographs. Video cameras can give images that can all too easily deceive the eye. I have lost count the number of times that I have heard people describe a 'propulsion trail' coming from poor quality footage of lights or dark objects, that are quite clearly nothing more than processing faults from the camcorder's CCD, as we have already seen in my own footage of a motionless planet - Jupiter.

So far, I have only expressed doubts and concern over straightforward footage direct from a camcorder, but I would also remind you to be aware of 'enhanced' and otherwise doctored footage, that is now possible, even by modest home computers, but that is a subject for another article.

It is perhaps an interesting paradox, that as we strive for that elusive one photo, or clip of footage, that actually proves beyond doubt that a UFO is a craft from elsewhere, the methods at our disposal actually cast more and more doubt on what that image might show. The burden of proof becomes heavier as technology gets more complex.

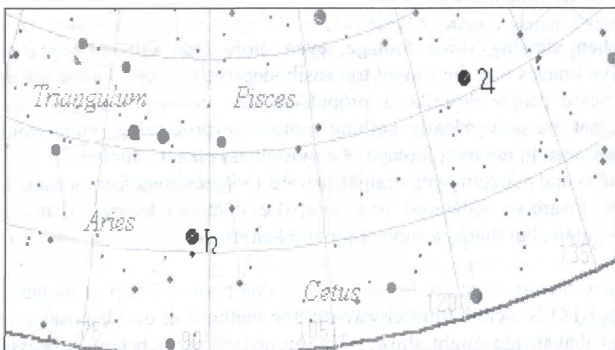
## ASTRONOMY NOTES - Summer 1998

### Data Research



The chart above, looking east, for just before sunrise at the end of June, shows that anyone wanting a look at the significant visible planets will have to be up early.

**Jupiter** (♃), **Saturn** (♄), **Venus** (♀) and **Mars** (♂), will be seen stretching up into the southeastern sky. Keep in mind that even at the end of the month, sunrise is just before 04:50, and Mars will only just be clearing the horizon before sunrise. Jupiter will be at mag -2.4; Saturn will be mag +1.2; Venus mag -4.0, with a phase of 80%; Mars is in Taurus, and will be mag +1.5; **Neptune** (RA 20<sup>h</sup>15'3.14", Dec -19°25'43.7"), and **Uranus** (at mag +5.7 (RA 21<sup>h</sup>0'19.26", Dec -17°42'46"), are both in Capricorn, almost due south at this time.



Saturn's ring system is now open at about 15°, so is worth looking at in even a small telescope.

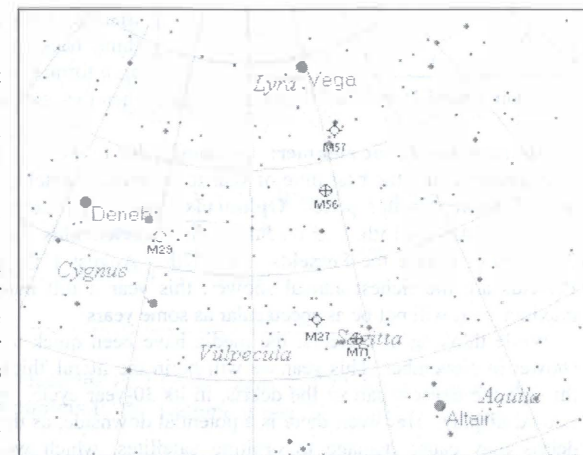
By the end of August, those of us who prefer late-evening skywatching will be able to see **Jupiter** and **Saturn** as they rise in the east (Chart left, for 22:00 BST). Jupiter, at mag -2.9, is bordering between Aquarius and Pisces; Saturn, at mag +0.9 is bordering Cetus and Arias. The two gas giant planets now rise earlier and earlier into the evening skies as we approach autumn.



If you are up early at the end of August, look to the eastern horizon at 05:00BST, and see **Mars** in Cancer, and **Mercury** and **Venus** in Leo. Venus will be unmistakable at mag -3.9, and Mercury is less than a degree away, at mag 0.0. Venus is 96% of full phase, and Mercury is 39% phase, so should show as a nice crescent in even a small telescope. This is the best apparition, for us, of Mercury as a morning object this year, and lasts until the second week in September. At 05:00BST on 8th September, both Venus and Mercury are within 1.5 degrees of Regulus. (See chart left)

### Triangles in the summer sky:

How many of you know of the so-called 'Summer Triangle' of bright stars? The main one is a classic collection of three stars, though not in any sense a constellation, since it comprises of Vega in Lyra, Deneb in Cygnus, and Altair in Aquila. This summer triangle is easily seen when looking high towards the south on any summer evening. Altair is a bright, white star, and is one of our closer neighbours, at only 16 light years away, almost a stone's throw in galactic terms! Some information gained by one of the Data



Research members, while experimenting with 'remote sensing', indicates that there are inhabited planets orbiting Altair. While Deneb may initially look similar to Altair in colour, it is quite different, being a blue-white giant star, and it is some 1800 light years away. The constellation of Cygnus also contains one of the best-known double stars, Albireo, which look good in binoculars, but better if you can get a small 'scope, namely because of their intense colours. The primary star is a yellow giant, which can look golden, depending on seeing conditions; the companion star is blue-green, and the combination is quite stunning. Interestingly enough, coloured stars are easier to see when they are in multiple systems, as the eye has two colours to contrast each other, whereas it normally tends to 'see' even coloured single stars as more white than they are. The third star of the summer triangle is the unmistakable Vega, another near neighbour at 26 light years distant. It is another blue-white star, and is the 6th brightest in our sky. Lyra also contains another interesting multiple star, namely Sheliak, which appears in a small 'scope as a cream and blue pair, which are only an 'optical double', whereas the cream brighter star is itself part of a true eclipsing binary, of a 13 day period. If you had sufficient magnification, you would see that both stars of this binary system are distorted into egg-shapes by their common gravity well.

Perhaps I might draw your attention to another, less well-known 'summer triangle', that may have connections to crop circles. Look to the southwestern sky towards late evening in late July and August, then find Arcturus in Bootes. Now, if you are already a stargazer, try to forget the traditional constellation markings that are familiar in books, and just concentrate on Arcturus and its nearby stars. Does anyone else notice the obvious isosceles triangle, with Arcturus as its apex? The



Swindon, on the 16th June, a summer evening when this 'stellar triangle' was in the sky above.

**Meteors during the summer:** Obviously, due to the long hours of daylight, and light evenings, the summer is not the best time of year to go meteor-watching, but we do have some of the better annual showers in this period. **Ophiucids** June 17th - 26th, max on the 19th.; **Delta Aquarids** July 15th - August 15th, max on July 29th; **Capricornids** July 15th - August 25th, max on August 2nd; and of course the **Perseids** July 27th - August 17th, max on August 12th. Although the Perseids are the richest annual shower, this year a full moon will interfere around the Perseid maxima, so it will not be as spectacular as some years.

While thinking of meteors, the media have been quick to pick up on the forthcoming Leonid shower in November. This year we will be in the literal 'thick of the Leonids', as the Earth passes through the densest part of the debris, in its 30-year cycle. So we can expect a truly spectacular Leonid display. However, there is a potential downside, as the sheer amount of incoming meteoric debris may cause damage to orbiting satellites, which would have serious effects on global navigation and telecommunications.

**Moon phases:** New - 24th June, 23rd July, 22nd August; Full 9th July, 8th August

Did anyone see Comet SOHO in late May? Due to its belated discovery by the spaceborne Solar Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO), even keen astronomers were caught unawares, and it while it did reach magnitude 0, it wasn't well situated for northern observers. Given the lateness of its discovery, we should be reminded of the potential 'doomsday scenario' of cometary impact. Though portrayed rather badly in *Deep Impact*, the possibility of such a 'cosmic collision' is there.

Further news on next year's eclipse. The Sunday Express on 7th June ran an article on the man trying to organize the logistics of getting the estimated 4 million people in and out of Cornwall for the week when the eclipse occurs. Supposedly it is going to take five days to get all of the traffic in, and five to get back out again! Interestingly enough, there may be some 'negative publicity', in that the media in general have been giving out warnings of fully booked holiday parks and campsites. However, a member of the Abingdon Astronomical Society was down in Cornwall recently, and made inquiries at several holiday parks and hotels, who all have ample room for that week, at the moment!

[Charts from SkyMap shareware]

adjacent chart has had its constellation markers and boundaries removed, does this show you anything? The two other points in this triangle are Seginus in Bootes, and Alphecca in Corona Borealis. You will also see that this triangle even has a prominent star at its centre, namely Icarus in Bootes. Icarus is another coloured double star, whose Arabic name means 'beautiful one', due to its intense orange and blue colours. Looking at this 'unofficial' triangle, which looks so obvious in the sky, just why did the ancients miss its obvious precision when they were mapping all manner of odd collections of stars into constellations? Also look at this shape again, of the triangle, with its centre star and three points, and think back to 1991, and the massive three-armed crop formation that appeared at Barbury Castle, near

Dear Editor,

#### MY EXPERIENCE

My name is James A Hill and what you are about to read happened in 1996. My wife and I bought a new house in the village of Wanborough, near Swindon, Wilts. After we came back from our holiday sometime in July, my wife decided it was time we built a conservatory. While I was setting the foundations, I heard Concorde fly over. Five minutes later, at a quarter to eight, another jet flew over making a very loud roar just like Concorde.

I looked up to be confronted by the most amazing sight - a 747 jet being followed by a flying triangle. I watched them for a few seconds before rushing in for my binoculars. When I came back out, I saw them heading towards Cirencester. Through the binoculars you could see contrails coming from the jet, but not from the triangle even though it was the same height as the jet. The triangle was gold in colour which might have been an effect from the setting sun. Also it was bigger than the jet from nose to tail and wing to wing. There were no lights on any tip or in the middle. The triangle was about a quarter of a mile behind the jet, and slightly to the left of the aircraft.

As the 747 moved further towards Cirencester, the triangle sped up and closed the gap to a few hundred yards. I watched it until it was out of sight.

This is my experience. Has anyone had a similar experience?

JAMES A HILL

Dear Editor,

About the article on Australian Abductions Pt 2 (Awareness Vol 22 No2). Believe it or not, but I have experienced similar encounters to the statement given in your publication.

I would be lying in bed and just before I would feel myself doze off, the atmosphere in the room would change and more or less the same thing happened as described in Awareness. The only difference is that I would feel someone (invisible) embrace me from behind and both of us would hover above the bed. Other times I heard someone or something whisper in my ear, and sometimes I would float around the room and emerge in the walls. Also I would hear music in the background from time to time. This happens to me quite a lot and the strange thing is I know when its going to happen. It is quite disturbing.

At first I wasn't able to resist this, and in a way I still can't. I can only snap myself out of it, like snapping out of some bad dream - but I know its not a dream. Next time it happens I must take a note of the time loss. I do not know what it is. In all my experiences I rarely felt myself leave the room but I was always drawn upwards. Maybe its some sort of attempted psychic abduction. I don't know. I must say I was quite startled to read a similar report. (Note when I was embraced, I felt hands wrap round me in a gentle way).

I haven't told anyone of this, but I remember my mother telling me that she lay in bed as a child and felt the covers of the bed tighten to a point where she couldnt move. All these experiences have to be related.

Also this only started to happen to me when I first got interested in UFOs etc, etc. maybe its just a simple case of my mind playing tricks, but this felt very real.

Name Withheld on request, Cork. Ireland.

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Dear Editor,  
SHOULD WE STOP THE SKYWATCHING AND LOOK CLOSER TO HOME.

There has been an increase in the Study or Idea about the existence of UFOs and ALIENS. Aliens have been blamed for EL-NINO and strange patterns on farm land in Britain. Many have claimed to have been abducted by aliens let alone the countless sightings we hear about each year, yet nobody has come to a positive conclusion as to what is really out there.

Has anyone stopped to think who lives next door? Or who is your partner you have lived with for 5 years? Or are these strange things already in our mist? I don't know the answers to the above, but what I do know is there are some very strange revelations that have recently come to light. The information is so sensitive that even the British media have refused to comment on it at the moment. This could be as a result of the media buying time for their own research or it might be company policy not to publish such information.

It has been confirmed that in Bristol in the west of England there are some people who were born with CATS EYES, (Please note this is not the name given to some eye disorder) but that the actual shape of their PUPILS is no different from those of a domestic cat. When this information was brought to my attention a year ago, I found it hard to believe, but when I was given the privilege to speak to one of them, and seeing those CATS EYES staring back at me, I found it extremely hard to swallow.

The gentleman I interviewed appeared no different from you and I, but his eyes were something to write home about. He is in his late 20s, very intelligent and refuses to confirm there are others like him. The drive back to London was mind blowing as I couldn't stop thinking about my experience. I thought it was a dream and that it would be all over in the morning, but I was wrong.

I phoned the contact for another appointment as I wanted to carry out some tests to prove that he had no contact lenses on, so we ended up in Boots opticians department, who confirmed he wasn't wearing lenses. What was found astonishing, was that with pupils like that, he still had excellent eyesight, and we took a trip down to Vision Express to confirm what I already knew, but refused to believe. The optical tests confirmed the evidence.

Now tell me, how many of his kind are amongst us today? What does he know that we don't? Why have they gone unnoticed for so long? Who are they?

There are photographs of my findings on request, and if you can answer any of the above questions please do not hesitate to contact me. I would be very happy to guide you to this gentleman - that is if you dispute any claims.

Meka, 4, Garton House, 119 Hornsey Lane, LONDON N6

Ed: Well we can't all be beautiful! The range of deviations in human features is well known, and people like the "elephant man" are still basically human. Where is a statement from Cats Eye man to indicate his origins, and just how many of his brothers are on the warpath?

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**THE THREAT** by DAVID M JACOBS PhD. Pub SIMON AND SCHUSTER £16.99  
I've been involved with the UFO phenomenon for over 30 years, although I have not investigated a claimed abduction case. I thought I was well read on the abduction scenario and knew the present situation on this ever changing mystery. How wrong I was! To say I was not prepared for the shocking revelations in **THE THREAT** is an understatement. JACOBS has found the end result, **THE ALIEN AGENDA**. Through meticulous analysis of his hypnotic regression sessions of his subjects, he has pieced together through remarks, words, and sentences what the purpose of the abductions is; what the alien interactions are for; and why the aliens are here. I will not spoil the book by relating too much to you, but it involves the alien breeding programme with abductees, genetic manipulation and total control of the human race. This book should be read by every leader, of every country in the world, because if JACOBS' revelations are anywhere near the truth, then the governments should react now to try to stop this threat to the human race if it is not already too late. This book is a leap forward to the understanding of alien purpose here on Earth and I recommend it to everybody - but be prepared for a shock.

BILL FOLEY

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**FACES OF THE VISITORS** by KEVIN RANDLE and RUSS ESTES.

This is a very useful reference book for the uninitiated on popular UFO cases. There are some clever illustrations which have been compiled from witnesses who experienced UFO/Alien contact and the whole is basically very informative.

It was interesting to note that the "Acknowledgements" section praised the work of the ufologist in the field who does so often go unrewarded - and I do say, hear hear to that!

The contents of the book are clearly laid out with five parts.

1. The Visitors CEIII
2. The Contactees
3. The Abductees
4. Photographs
5. Database - dealing with the wave of 1954 and 1973.

Part 1, *The Visitors* is clearly written in simple terminology and goes over the past CEIII cases such as Lonnie Zamora, Roswell etc. There a few not so well known cases which takes away that yet *another* repeat of old tales, but on the whole, a reminder of past ufology cases worth noting.

Part 2, *The Contactees* goes on to explain the beginnings of contact of space beings from 1947 to the present day. In the beginning, the experience was explained as spiritual; then as messages summoning an apocalypse, of communism, then just fear of alien flying saucers. This (*quote*) "mix of paranoia, fear and helplessness mixed with religion fuelled the contactee phenomenon - which then, only extraterrestrials had the superhuman power to overcome the negative forces that mankind had brought to planet Earth". Good illustrations and simple dialogue are given within the samples of contactee cases and this in turn shows the different shapes, sizes and looks of the aliens. Included in this section are the Billy Meier Contacts and the Andreasson Affair case.

Part 3, *The Abductees* is a synopsis of the aliens which have interacted with humans and there are detailed site locations with bibliography on many of the well known as well as the not so well known cases. For instance the well known include those such as Antonio Villas-Boas, the Hill's abduction and Travis Walton, but a few of the unfamiliar cases shows that in total there is no real set pattern to the abduction scenario but then of course there is no actual evidence, save that of the witnesses testimony.

If you are a reader unfamiliar with abductee cases then *FACES OF THE VISITORS* would be good grounding for the uninitiated, but for the hardened ufologist its a bit old hat, but useful to have on the bookshelf as an instant reference.

Part 4, *The Photographs* is a small section only because the book rightly says: "There are hundreds of descriptions of UFO occupants but only a handful of photographs!" Fakes are so easy to perform and even good photos are nearly always doubted if any should be published, but the majority are of such poor quality with practically no corroboration with them that for this reason they end up very thin on the ground. The section is cleverly put together leaving the reader, in the main, to decide for himself which could be genuine or fake, but nonetheless this is very interesting from a photographic point of view, as I cannot recall seeing so many of the old pictures being contained in one section, to be able to make comparisons before.

Part 5, *The Database* covering the wave of 1954 with detailed sections of sightings, witnesses etc, and the 1973 Occupant database, was compiled to show a certain pattern in these waves. The 1973 wave namely being that the aliens were on a mission to Earth, and instructed to complete it as quickly as possible and leave.

An interesting theory and one I certainly wouldn't argue with.

FRAN COPELAND

### UFO CRASH LANDING by JENNY RANDES. Pub. BLANDFORD £10

Afficionados of the Rendlesham Affair will be pleased to learn that a new and relatively inexpensive version of the Brenda Butler, Dot Street and Jenny Randles material in "SKYCRASH" (Spearman 1984) has appeared in paperback, much augmented and brought up to date by just one author, Jenny Randles.

In the new book, Brenda Butler and Dot Street may not be pleased to find they are described as "brave", and "WERE enthusiasts, not methodical scientists--- made a few notes and collected little systematic data--- a struggle to figure out what had taken place." Note that when I met Brenda Butler at Rendlesham in 1997 during The "Big Breakfast Show" (C4), she was definitely not as weak and amateurish as the quote suggests, and faint or absent praise from a popular pulpit is far too easy in fact. However these personal issues are irrelevant, the book is important in that details of Cold Witness, a very high energy radar beam which was over the horizon - similar to the "Kiev Woodpecker" in Russia (which may have had more than one purpose) - are included. Surprisingly the American pulse repetition frequency was sixteen cycles as noted in Awareness Vol 21, and this has some implications, as noted then, especially as one transmitter was near Orford Ness until 1991. Another new point raised is the separation of the Rendlesham reports from the earlier satellite re-entry of Cosmos 749; the BAA claiming that the re-entry angle of Cosmos 749

was different. Another satellite, 1226, was implicated also. Yet for some reason, Dr Alan Bond, space physicist, warned Jenny Randles not to continue investigating Rendlesham for fear of radiation from the hot reactor in the satellite.

When I checked for radiation at the site last year with a Geiger Counter the background was only very slightly higher than average. (Not incontrovertible evidence of any incident).

Satellites are a problem. Also there is the difficult factor of the incorrectly dated log entries, which naturally can be interpreted two ways. Firstly as just a flurried mistake concerning a matter which at first was not taken totally seriously; secondly there is the possibility of the desire to obscure an embarrassing incident by re-running a fake version and hiding the true event by a much more dramatic fake. Say the first had been an incident concerning a secret craft or facility; the second a "UFO" event with planted evidence which might obscure the original rather neatly. Then there is the extremely long delay before investigation of much of the evidence in the book, and the fact that some witnesses came forward after the brouhaha had hit the media and could be there to reinforce a coverup though not of the "UFO" kind in fact.

Note the recent case in the Wash (Oct 1996) and also the Lightning aircraft case - the mysterious ditching in which the canopy was closed and the pilot disappeared occurred in the North Sea area together with Rendlesham. All this stresses the distinct nature of the region in which craft can slip in just above sea level off radar, and does suggest that the North Sea be considered an area of heightened probability for sightings - though rather large for a "hot spot".

This book introduces controversial issues about the case in addition to telling the story, and hence is worth purchasing for a "good read". From a scientific point of view, there is evidence missing like actual satellite trajectories; actual trajectories of meteor showers and their radiants, and the geomagnetic indicators of jet currents on those nights.

Always in these cases, one wishes there was a quick reaction unit in Britain with radiation, infrared, ultraviolet, and computing skills, which could speed to the event before the trail goes cold. There is definitely a tie up with radiation, electromagnetic effects, infrared images and radar, and additionally the subsequent investigation of ionospheric currents at the time to check the "arrival from space" option. It is believed that the MOD do have "Q" aircraft standing by for this purpose, but must we really wait, in this eased climate of opinion, 30 years for the evidence to be released from this source?

MICHAEL SOPER

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