

UFO REVIEW

The Truth is very tired just now and has taken to his bed. Shhh.....don't disturb.

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Gary McKinnon;

Complete moron or Ufological hero? Or both?



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Welcome



The spectre of Gary McKinnon raised its head again a few weeks back. In case you don't know who he is, he is an English computer hacker who managed to crash into the Pentagon system and saw all sorts of things that he wasn't meant to see. While he would acknowledge that with hindsight, it wasn't the brightest thing to do, he was spurred on to do it by a desire to discover what the American government knew about UFO's. And although he didn't find out anything specific to that subject, he did come across one or two interesting things like for example the fact that the American military has "non terrestrial officers", which strongly implies that there is something else permanently moored "up there" besides the Space Station.

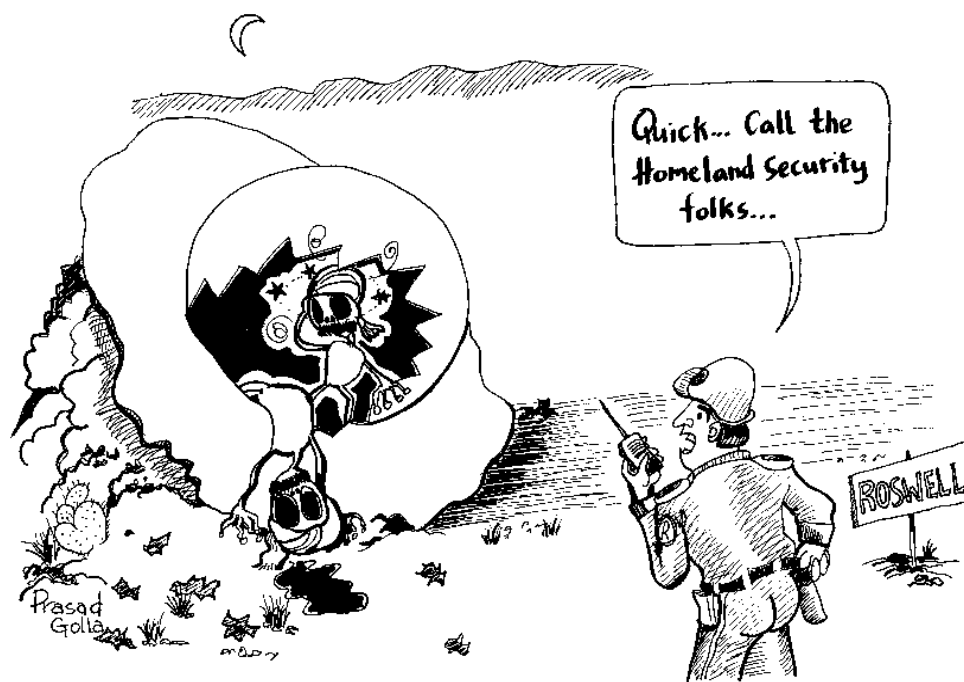
The Americans of course want to extradite him from the UK and have classified him in such a manner that if tried and convicted, he would go away to prison for a very long time indeed. And while some of you may mutter under your breath after having read that last sentence, "And why not?" I would remind you that Gary was not working for any foreign government or intent on any espionage against the United States. He was just trying to find out "UFO secrets", a naive thing to do indeed but hardly worthy of a life sentence in an American jail.

Recklessness in the pursuit of UFO information is a theme of this issue of *Review*. It is something that comes up time and time again in our main featured interview with Nick Redfern and inevitably, at least on our part, there is a certain amount of sympathy towards Gary McKinnon even if another part of me can't help thinking that he was a bit of a plonker. There is a certain amount of antipathy towards so-called "direct action" within ufology on the part of some based mainly on the belief that it brings the subject into disrepute and attracts bad publicity. You pay your money and make your choice. You can slave away doing everything legitimately for years and almost certainly make relatively little or slow progress or you can say, "Stuff that" and try and go directly to the source. Doing it that way, you may hit pay dirt or you may get caught and if you get caught then there is usually some sort of mess afterwards.

As fundamentally I am a coward, I admire the activities of those much braver than me and would give them every encouragement. To an extent, people like Gary McKinnon and Matthew Bevan, who you will read about later, do our dirty work and I feel that to an extent we are in their debt even though I know there are some of you reading this who will not agree with me on that point. I wish Gary every success in fighting his extradition and believe that the combination of British justice and a desire on the part of the American intelligence community not to see their dirty washing laundered in public may swing things in his favour.

You may notice that the two principal interviews in this issue of *UFO Review* are with authors who both have books published by Anomalist Books. The owner of the company, Patrick Huyghe, refuses point-blank to pay me any money for promoting his starlets in this manner which I think is pretty tight. Nevertheless, Anomalist Books seems to be an exciting new venture into the world of publishing as its focus is most definitely on "our" subject. They employ the "print on demand" technology which in some quarters is heavily criticised as not being "proper publishing". Proper publishing of course means guessing in advance how many copies the book is likely to sell and hoping that you get it right. And when

"they" get it wrong we all benefit as their overruns end up in the bargain basement basket selling at a third of the original price. Seems like this isn't something that is going to happen to Anomalist Books. I wish Patrick and his staff all the best.

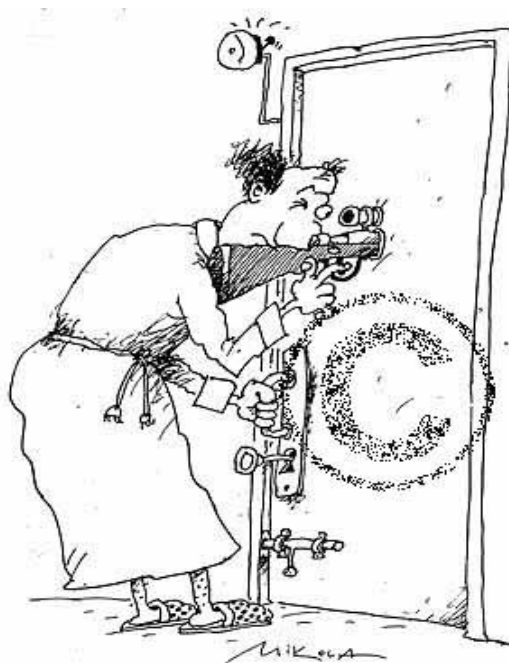


FADED DISCS

A collection of audio recordings in a modern format of soundtracks of immense Ufological historical interest. Just through this library of sound alone you can trace the history of Ufology from the beginning and hear the people involved actually speaking. All the work is done by Wendy Connors and she can be reached at <http://www.fadeddiscs.com/>

ON THE TRAIL OF THE SAUCER SPIES

How the British and American government have spied on
Ufologists



Interview with author Nick Redfern



Dr. Nick Redfern (courtesy Billy Booth at About.Com. see: <http://ufos.about.com/b/a/245119.htm>) has been very prolific lately, what with *Body Snatchers* upsetting one or two folk last year, and now *Saucer Spies* set to do it all over again. What's going to upset them about this? Well, if you've missed all the prepublication publicity about this book then you are about to find out that

it's the story of the intelligence community's spying on and observing of ufologists over the years. Well, you might think, the spooks would do that wouldn't they? After all, they don't want ufologists to get too close to the real truth and if one or two of them look like they might, then obviously they are going to be spied on. I'm afraid that's not the reason why ufologists have been watched, which is a little disconcerting as it implies that there is no Truth to find out. They were primarily watched because the authorities feared that some people were using ufology as a cover for more unpatriotic reasons.

What a letdown. I'll let Nick explain it.....

SM: Well, a fascinating book, Nick, truly fascinating. I got the feeling that the book came to you via The Sandman.

NR: The beginnings of the book, if you like, probably go back to when I was reading UFO books in general, maybe 25 years ago. Every so often, occasionally, you would find a report from somebody in a book or in a magazine, where something weird had happened, where it sounded like someone had either been visited by somebody from the official world, kind of like the NICAP story about how they were supposedly infiltrated by the CIA years ago. I would occasionally hear those types of things and just keep them on file. As time went on, a few things began to be declassified through the Freedom of Information act like the FBI files on George Adamski and George Van Tassel. From there, I started building up files and dossiers on those records that had been declassified, just filing them away, and as time went on, they got bigger and bigger and I began to hear snippets of information from other people about how they had been placed under surveillance as a result of their involvement in the UFO subject, although not always for UFO reasons, as you will know from the book.

As time went on, more and more files were declassified, but more importantly, I got more witness testimony, which to me was important because, although the files hadn't surfaced necessarily, the people relating the accounts were perhaps corroborating something I had heard somewhere else or from someone else.

And so in that respect, probably by about six years ago, I had a fairly substantial body of information, and of course I had a few weird run-ins of my own as well. A picture came together which suggested that pretty much all of the entire UFO research community, at various points, had been subject to surveillance. I don't lightly say the entire "UFO research community" but it was the leading players, and a lot of the key names in the subject were watched for various reasons.

I remember telling Dave Clark and Andy Roberts, about seven years ago now, that I had a contact that worked at Special Branch who knew about the surveillance of people in Britain but that the UFO surveillance was all tied in with political things and right wing organisations but that there was a spill over with in the UFO angle as well.

And so from the British perspective, I started to pursue that and at the same time, I was filing FOIA requests in America to get files declassified on UFO researchers in the States who were no longer living; that's one of the provisos -- unless you get the permission from the person who is alive, you have to wait until they are dead to get their file.

So, collectively, by about three years ago, I had got a substantial amount of files, a large amount of the witness testimony, and I had interviewed a lot of people on the record and off the record, talking about either their own experiences or just providing me with information as to why people were put under surveillance. I was actually writing the book, in tandem with *Body Snatchers*, in the sense that the two was so different that it didn't confuse me that much! I would do a couple of days on *Body Snatchers*, and then a day or so on this book. It was basically a case of sitting down, putting all the information together and saying, "Okay, why was this person under surveillance, why would anyone be under surveillance?" And then I really tried to separate the book into different chapters and different areas, explaining why different people were under surveillance and when it was going on, and what the reasons were.

That was how it came about. I think the one important thing to remember in this story, not just in the book, is that as far as the UFO research community is concerned, all of us within the UFO subject have our own views and our own ideas and thoughts and biases on what UFOs are and where they are from and why they are here, etc. But I think the one thing we all need to remember is that the one thing that unites us all, even if the ideas and theories don't, is that we are a community. We are a UFO research community of several thousand people, probably, are more important than that, we spend a considerable amount of our time looking into government secrets and trying to open government secrets, and I think when you have a body of people of four or five figures looking into government secrecy, publicising it and lecturing about it, it's not surprising that we would be watched by the official world.

The important thing is that this is the one thing that unites us, in that we are viewed by the official world as a community and to a large extent, kind of like a trouble making community, sticking its nose into things where really it isn't needed. That's one of the main reasons why I wrote the book -- not to say, "This is my theory on this case or that case" but to say, "Hey, it's about time that we didn't just look at what's going on up in the sky but also that we actually look at what's going on in regards to us and our place in the world and what the official world thinks about us. Let's unite behind that and see if we can get some of the answers by following that approach.

SM: You make it very clear on more than one occasion in the book that the reason why the intelligence agencies have targeted UFO researchers or groups is because they suspect that their interest in UFOs is a cover for some other activity of an espionage nature of some sort. In all the instances that you've referred to, certainly in terms of your personal experiences and the people around you, and I guess in your case, and it probably extends to the Americans mentioned as well, no proof was ever found, other than the fact that that individual had an interest in Ufology. Do you think the intelligence community ever came across someone who claimed to be a Ufologist who was actually there for other reasons?

NR: Just to explain to people who perhaps won't have read the book immediately the interview appears, the overriding message that I'd got on pretty much every occasion when I looked into people who had been investigated by the government and the military was that yes, a lot of these people had UFO interests and were doing a huge amount of UFO related research and there was no doubt that government agencies realised that they were doing UFO research but there was always this nagging fear that maybe they were they doing something else as well. Was the fact that they were looking into this particular case that involved a particular military base in England, shall we say, just connected with UFOs or were they trying to collect information on the base and then pass it on to subversive organisations?

Now that theory was actually looked at on the numerous occasions, but to answer the question, I never came across one case, where it was ever proven or even where I suspected it was true that people's UFO research was a specific cover for something else like espionage.

But there is absolutely no doubt that that is what certain government agencies, both in the States and Britain had concluded, which is an interesting thing in itself. When you ask if it's possible that there were people out there that were doing this, and it was legitimately proved to the government, if it had been the case then I think we probably would have heard more about it. If that has happened, it's more likely that it's been done by the overseas espionage agents perhaps, trying to penetrate the US defence systems secrets. I think if a UFO researcher had actually been on the payroll of the Soviet Union or something like that, we would probably have heard about it because they would have been jailed. That's what kind of convinces me that that never happened.

SM: Before we get into more specifics, just a couple of things, general points I'd like to make. The first point I'd like to make, it's a statement not a question, is that I think that you guys are unbelievably brave. You really stick your necks out in order to get at the truth. To an extent, you've sort of paid the price a bit.

NR: When it's a subject like the UFO subject, because there are obviously barriers and levels of secrecy surrounding information, there are several ways you can go to look at the answers. One is to use the Freedom of Information act to get hold of files. Now, as all of us know within the UFO subject, yes, the Freedom of Information act in the States and in Britain has been good for extracting certain files but I don't think anyone disputes that the FOIA only gets used so far. Yes, we've got a lot of very significant UFO reports from the military and the intelligence communities that have been declassified that point towards the fact that strange things have been seen and the strange things have gone on.

But the problem is that I think most people that look into the subject of official secrecy realise that there are several tiers and several layers to this subject. The harder data, the better data, if you like, the way in which the subject has been manipulated, like the Bennowitz case; these files just don't surface through the Freedom of Information act. We get to see the shop window material, if you like. There is no literal physical way to get hold of this extra material. A lot of people are quite happy and content to fire off FOIA letters all the time, saying "Please release your files on this". If they've got anything, they might release it, if they haven't, they don't release it. Or they may just cite national security, and neither confirm nor deny.

So then you are left with several different avenues. You can either not do anything and just say, "I'll do an analysis of the files, but I know there are other things, but how do I get them?" Or you give up, or, you just take the one road. If you are like me and want the answers, you have to take the unconventional approach and think outside the box and try and focus on other ways to try and find the information and the answers, and sometimes that causes problems and can get you into hot water. For example, when I was looking into some cases like crashed UFO stories and alien bodies being taken to particular locations, instead of looking into the crashed UFO story as such, I spent months trying to track down all the people that worked at the base at that time and then spent days phoning them up on the telephone or literally turning up on their front doorstep, banging on the door, and asking them questions.

Now, a lot of people or some people in the UFO subject do not take that full on approach because either they haven't got the confidence to do it or they are

scared, or they don't want to do it. But I feel that if you are going to go in to the subject, and you want the answers, what's the point of doing a half hearted investigation? Go the full way. Taking the unconventional approach unfortunately can get you noticed at an official level, and sometimes it can close doors as well, so it's kind of like a double-edged sword.

SM: When you yourself were being watched, were you aware you were being watched?

NR: No. That's actually a good question. No, I wasn't until it was made clear to me. What happened was, between when I was 17 to 21, I had a caravan, or for American readers, a trailer, in Brixham, England with three of my mates. We had a caravan down there for about four years, and it was around about this time than I sort of got involved with animal rights groups. A lot of British people over the age of 30 and probably a little bit more would remember all the pictures that appeared on TV years ago about beagles being fed cigarettes in Porton Down and places like that. I'm useless at years, but it was roughly around about when I was 17 or 18, which would have been around 1980 or 81 that I got quite involved with this animal rights thing. I did demonstrations and passed out leaflets, that sort of thing, getting the word out about what was going on in some of these experimental government labs.

Beside cigarettes they also tested perfume and makeup and medicines and things like this, on animals. I'm quite sure that anyone with a bit of commonsense would know that when you are demonstrating about something like that about what government agencies know, then you are inevitably at some point, depending on the extent of what you are doing, going to attract attention.

I know that at the time I had no inkling that that was the case. But certainly, travelling around the country, and getting involved in some of these demos and things like that, then you probably are going to attract attention.

Now this was going back to the early to mid 80s era when there was a lot of demonstrations about all sorts of things going on in Britain, like the campaign for nuclear disarmament. Then you had things like the miners strike. It was quite a volatile time in the mid-80s for people who aren't living in England who may not have been aware of the situation. Then, a few years later, you had things like the poll tax riots. Again, US readers probably don't know the extent to which English people will kind of rise up and say, "Hey, we're not going to go along with that." Then there was the petrol strike of a few years ago, which is another classic example.

I'd always had an interest into *not* looking in to secrecy just for the sake of it but I feel it's justified and right if you feel that government agencies or the government in general are doing things that are wrong. Then we have a right to say that we feel what they are doing is either wrong or right. Today, and I see it over here, people are frightened to say things. It's an either you're with us or against us situation and to me, you should always have the right to stand up and say, "Hey, this is wrong, and if it is wrong, I'm going to do something in my own way, however little it helps, to do something to fix it." At least I've tried.

So what happened was, I was getting involved with various demonstrations and things on topics that I felt were wrong from my perspective, and then I got into the UFO subject. Actually, I was in the UFO subject already, though I didn't get involved in direct research until the mid-80s, and I guess, like most people then, kind of just focused on the whole angle of what UFOs were. At that particular time, I had no inkling there was a file on me. Actually, I think at that time, there

wasn't a UFO file on me at all. I think that only began more in the early 90s, when I started pressing for the files through the 30 year ruling in England, particularly, and then getting involved with the whole Rudloe Manor story.



Animal rights demo

SM: Just stepping out of this for a moment, Nick and focusing on the animal rights element of it, as I'm sure you're aware, over the last few years, particularly since the showing of the documentary on Huntingdon

Life Sciences, there's been a big build-up in the incidence of personal violence against individuals who are working for organisations in animal research experimentation. In particular, I don't know if you are aware of the latest situation that was occurring here last week with Oxford University. Have you heard about that?

NR: Yes.

SM: What's your attitude towards that part of it; the personal violence?

NR: That's the thing I want to stress; I have never been involved in anything like that. Nor would I, because I don't actually think it achieves anything. The reason I don't think it achieves anything is because, if there is a possibility of getting people on your side who are sympathetic and open to the idea of "Hey, this is wrong", then the worst way of doing it is to go around firebombing people's cars. That pushes people away, and more importantly, it pushes influential people away, who could actually get something done.

So my approach has always been to say, "Here's the facts, here's a leaflet about it, read it, here's a booklet, read it, here's the video, have a look at it. You eat beef, you eat chicken, don't shy away from the fact that it shows that this is how it is in abattoirs". From my perspective, I think that graphically displaying what goes on and showing them is a far better tool than turning up at somebody's house and putting a brick through the window. I don't think that actually achieves anything beyond ostracising that particular protest group from the media, who sensationalise it and view it as a good story. Members of Parliament are going to shy away from it, because they cannot be seen to support a group that uses violence in that respect. So you do then become isolated and I actually don't think it achieves anything at all in taking the approach of burning places down or putting windows through or sending hate mail. It's counterproductive to what they are trying to do and the reason why they don't need to do that is because the evidence is so graphic that you can change things just by showing that to people. See what I mean?

SM: I understand perfectly what you mean Nick and I speak as somebody who is not affiliated or a member of any animal protest group. But, I have to say that I think the campaign of violence has actually been very affective and that it has achieved something, to be perfectly honest with you.

NR: Oh, it achieves things, but the problem is I think it misses the target audience that could actually be more influential and could get behind it and help more, but will inevitably back away. That's what happens. With MPs and people like that, who might be willing to lend a hand, the moment a petrol bomb

explodes in some lab, that MP is not going to lend his or her support to that cause.

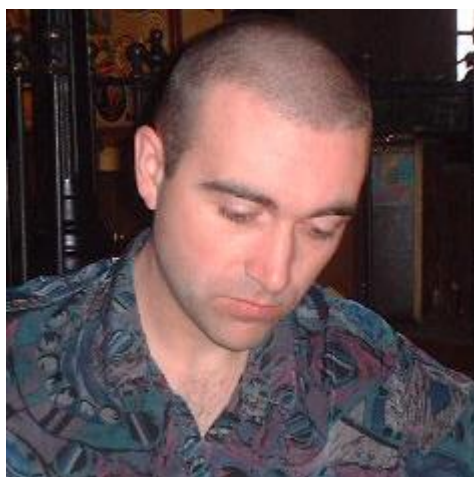
SM: I think the animal rights movement has gone past that point. I think they think, "Well, we'd had enough of that, of gory videos and PR exercises. In the end, the animals can't fight back....."

NR: I agree. I think it is one of these things where, if it's a legitimate protest that somebody feels is worthwhile doing, then there are ways and means of doing it, some of which will work better than others. If government agencies don't take notice, then it is up to people to bring it to the attention of the press and the public themselves. And I think, whether it's animal rights or whatever it is, if you feel that it is a legitimate cause that government agencies are endorsing and it is wrong, then it should be highlighted.....

SM: It's got to the stage now here, where the Prime Minister is personally involved, and is given personal assurances.

NR: This is a classic example. If you actually bring it to people's attention and it gets built up and built up and it becomes profiled in the media, then it becomes very difficult for the governments to ignore whatever the subject is. We've focused on animal rights but whatever it is, it becomes very difficult for them to ignore it to the point where they just say "Go away", particularly when there is a large percentage of the population behind the cause, like foxhunting -- a classic example. That was the domain of the rich, the famous, and the incredibly stupid. In that respect, people got behind that cause but I think there is a tendency on the part of the general public for people to ignore the chances of change, due to the fact that they think, "Oh, we're just the general public. We've just got to sit around watching Coronation Street or EastEnders. We've got to go to bed and then get up for work, and the government tells us what to do". The government doesn't tell us what to do, we vote them in, and hopefully, we still vote them in.

And so I think there is this tendency to think that governments are our gods or rulers, if you like, and they are not. They are there because we put them there. And if we put them there, then they are going to damned well do what we want. If they are doing something we don't want, then we need to put that straight or we need to kick them out and elect someone who is going to be more attuned to what we want. I think people need to realise that they can make a difference and that things can be changed. I don't think that there is anything wrong with that and I don't think people should be fearful of what's going to happen.



Matthew Williams

SM: Well, yes, but most people are. That's why people like yourself, Matthew Williams, and even Robin Cole to some extent stand out, and that's why I label, and I don't use that in a derogatory context, I label people like you brave because you are prepared to take that extra step that most ordinary people aren't because they are fearful of the consequences. They are fearful of having their lives messed up, they are fearful of finding that their credit rating is absolutely zero everywhere, and so on. They are fearful of having their lives destroyed.

NR: That's because people become a slave to the state. From my perspective, as I said, whatever I've looked into, I've never understood the whole idea of investigating something like UFOs then either giving up, or just taking one approach and then not going any further. People may think I am being bullish or that I shouldn't say this, but if I find now that I'm looking into one particular case, and there is an 80 year old guy who I have managed to track down who is still alive and who worked at one particular place in exactly the same office and timeframe that I am investigating, I'll call him up, and if he puts the phone down then I will travel to his house and bang on the front door until he opens his door.

SM: So, you will not take first refusal?

NR: No. You have to keep pushing, well, you don't have to do, but I don't see the point of investigating something and then giving up. You see what I mean? It's like Roswell. I know a lot of people don't believe the conclusions I came to in *Body Snatcher* but, when I first began looking into it, people just said there was nothing to it and that I didn't want to get involved because it was going to ruffle feathers in the UFO subject and ostracise me from the UFO community, and people wouldn't want to book me on the lecture circuit. But my reaction was like, "So what?" You know what I mean? This is a legitimate area of investigation and research, so it's worth looking into. I'm not going to worry about five years down the line, where some the UFO group is going to say, "Sorry Nick, you destroyed my world view on ufology so we are not going to book you to speak next Thursday night at six o'clock or whatever." I would never even consider things like that as being anywhere remotely important.

But I think a lot of what it comes down to is that a lot of the surveillance of people in England like Matthew and me and Robin was due to the fact that we were digging in areas that a lot of people hadn't dug into before, and we were doing it to some extent in unconventional ways. And we were just pressing on and on and on. It wasn't a case of just looking into something for a month or two, and writing a two-page article in a magazine or whatever. It was years and years of travelling around England and things like that, just investigating things. It was round about that time, I think, that the investigation of people in England began to reach another level.



Leo Gebauer

SM: Anyway, to come back to the book. Gebauer of Newton/Scully fame. The gentleman ended up with an FBI file 398 pages thick, of which only a part has been declassified. Now, the whole Newton/Scully/Gebauer thing was pretty weird in the first place, but is there a suspicion that there is much more to it than even you turned up? Why would that guy need a 398 page FBI file?

NR: Well, the basics of the Aztec story, which is the one that you are talking about, was that in 1948, a UFO supposedly crashed near the town of Aztec, New Mexico, and details of the story were given to a journalist and writer named Frank Scully. Two of Scully's prime

sources were Silas Newton and Leo Gebauer who were actually shown to have very dubious backgrounds and were involved in all sorts of scams and schemes.

Now, there is absolutely no doubt that part of the reason why there are FBI files on these two guys was purely because they were involved in all sorts of odd and dubious activities. By the way, Silas Newton's FBI file is actually on the FBI's website, which you can download as a PDF and can read the whole thing. It tells you all about his arrest record and things that they thought he was involved in and prosecutions and that type of thing.

But anyway, Silas Newton and Leo Gebauer were two of Frank Scully's prime sources for information on the Aztec story. And what happened was, Scully wrote this book in 1950 called "Behind the Flying Saucers" which told the story of his investigation into various UFO crashes in the United States, primarily talking about the Aztec story where this thing had crashed, and a number of small bodies that had been recovered, and it had all been taken to various air force bases and military bases for study.



Silas Newton

Around about this time, the FBI and the air force got very, very interested in stories that were circulating all around the US, kind of gossip type stories and friend of a friend tales, about crashed UFOs and alien bodies. Newton lectured on the subject one day at a university and the FBI put together a file or a report on this particular lecture, so they were watching this quite closely. They were looking at who Gebauer and other people in the story were talking to and what they were saying. What's surprising is that the Aztec story from its beginnings, and the way in which Newton and Gebauer met Scully, how Scully published the story, what it said and so on - all this is actually spelled out in the FBI's surveillance files.

So, the FBI were well aware of how the Aztec story began, how it developed, how it was subsequently published and how a journalist named J.P. Cahn in the early and mid-50s dug into the story and considered it to be bogus. Now what's interesting is, as you said, the fact that Gebauer is the subject of an almost 400 page long FBI file, of which approximately half has been declassified and some of the classified material, some is still classified for personal privacy, some is for medical reasons, there is some inter- agency documentation, but there are actually a few pages which are classified in the interests of national defence. And they are classified under the B1 classification of the Freedom of Information Act, which does concern national defence issues and the security of the United States.

Now, I personally think, and this is me kind of harking back to *Body Snatchers*, but if you look at the story that Newton and Gebauer and Frank Scully were telling collectively about little bodies being recovered in New Mexico from some sort of advanced machine in 48, 49, 50, I personally believe that these were probably grossly mutated stories that they had heard. Newton and Gebauer were working in New Mexico at the time on some of these scams and schemes. I wouldn't be at all surprised if they hadn't heard rumours of some of these high altitude experiments that had gone on in the New Mexico desert. They probably

elaborated them, thinking they could make a dollar out of the story, and then people in the official world realised they were talking about crashed UFOs and dead aliens and that they might be onto something, as badly wrong as they actually got it.

Or, if they knew the truth, they might have thought it was more interesting, again from a dollar angle, to say it was aliens. There is one part in "Body Snatchers" in the section about Frank Scully, where the sources talk about how it was his book that had really worried the military. Even though the book was grossly distorted or wrong, somehow, someone actually picked up on the basics of the story about events in New Mexico. So I wouldn't be at all surprised if part of the classified material and some of the other files that probably exist on these guys are related more to the fact that they had stumbled on to something that was a military secret and that was one of the reasons why these people were being watched. It was a case of who they were talking to, what they were talking about, and what was their motivation for digging into these crashed stories and publicising them?

SM: But Nick, somebody came round to Newton's house and told him, "We know what you're up to, what you're doing. Carry on."

NR: That suggests that Newton was being watched, which we know he was because he gave a lecture at a particular university where he was billed as Scientist X. There's an FBI report on the lecture. But there is no doubt that he UFO activities were being watched quite closely, but, and we have to rely on Newton's own words for this but, potentially, the fact that Newton was being watched and was actually being encouraged by the military to continue to tell this crashed UFO tale suggests that it was acting as a good cover for something else. That's what I conclude, that the military knew that to some extent the cat was out of the bag, and that it was okay, because these guys think it was crashed UFOs. So let's go and encourage him to continue talking about crashed UFOs. If they can't hide it then just put out what people want to hear, and I think that's what happened.

What's interesting about the Aztec story and a lot of these crashed UFO accounts of which there are several in the book, is that they were the subject of official files, and a lot of the key players in the stories were the subject of official files as well. Which is interesting when you see that that's a complete swing in the opposite direction to Roswell, where everything is gone, and that's why I suspect that's the reason why we had those other files is because these files are kind of different. The Roswell files were obviously case files on the incident. These files were put together, I suspect, because people had got fragments of the story and they were being watched. They are not files on the Aztec crash in the same way that the missing files on Roswell were on the Roswell crash. These are files on people that were looking into the stories and from the government's perspective, had no business doing so. In that respect, that's why these files are put together, and probably why we have access to them because they paint an interesting story of government monitoring of early crashed UFO researchers in the United States for reasons that researchers thought were probably because they had stumbled on the real truth about aliens when it may have been something else entirely.

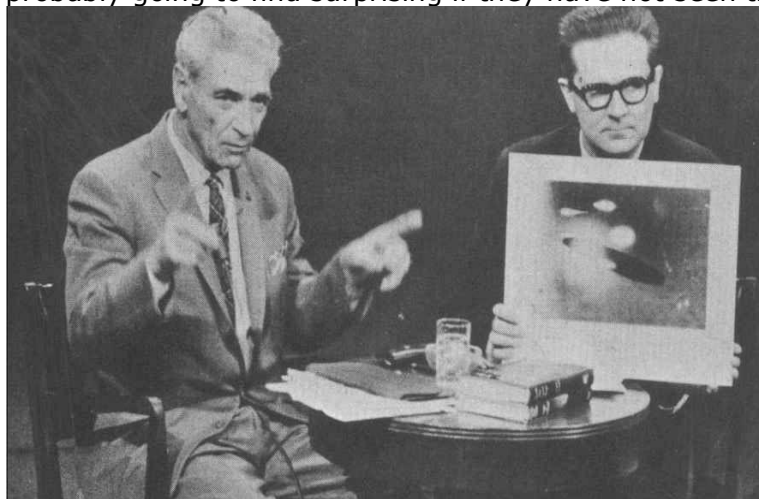
SM: Adamski. With hindsight, now, was he a scam artist looking for ways of replacing income lost as a result of the repeal of prohibition or, was he a CIA plant? Because, you know, you've got this thing about the passport, which is intriguing.

NR: Adamski is to me, even to this day, an enigma. I'll tell you why he's an enigma. You can write off most of Adamski's story as far as I'm concerned, but a lot of the initial contactee people in the UFO subject, particularly in the 50s, a lot of their sightings and encounters kind of took place in out of the place quiet, remote, desert locations, and that it almost took on a Shamanic like experience. They were kind of "out", communing in the desert and had these otherworldly experiences, which are like a classic Shaman type experience that have occurred all around the world for thousands of years.

Someone has gone into an altered state, a trance. There's a lot of good research, like Rick Strassman's *Spirit Molecules* which talks about drug induced states to induce meetings and communions with otherworldly beings. I don't for one minute believe that George Adamski was in touch with or met aliens from anywhere. But I just wonder if some of these the initial experiences at the height of the UFO era were kicked off by the possibility that maybe they did have shamanic, trance, like experiences in the desert. Perhaps they had an interest in the subject and somebody goes out into the desert and has an experience, so they tried the same thing. Maybe they had a self induced vision, which then kicks off a belief and perhaps even an emotionally needed belief. And maybe something happened to them, but maybe it was more internalised than external.

I wouldn't actually be surprised if some of the contactees in that respect, at least had some sort of experience, perhaps just one, but certainly not with aliens from Venus. Perhaps it was a vision or experience of some sort based on the culture of the time, the environment of the desert and God knows what else they were doing at the time.

When you begin to look into Adamski's story, and this idea of meeting people from the various planets in the solar system and going on board spacecraft and being toured around the solar system - in literal terms, I'm sure never happened. There is an argument for saying that some of the contactees earnestly and fully believed their experiences were taking place. I personally believe that from looking at some of the characters involved in that era. They firmly believed, some of them, at least, that this was going on. But when you look at Adamski's FBI file, which collectively amount to around a hundred pages altogether, including some State Department documents and some CIA files, it paints a very, very bad picture of the guy which a lot of people who believe in Adamski are probably going to find surprising if they have not seen the FBI file before.



George on the telly

A classic example was when in the mid-1950s, Adamski was going around lecturing at conferences and was saying that his work, his research, his lectures were actually endorsed by the air force and the FBI. This inevitably got back to J. Edgar Hoover, who told his agents to tell

Adamski that they certainly weren't endorsing his work and what finally happened was, there was a printed statement given to Adamski to that affect.

Instead of just filing that letter away, what he actually did was a cut and paste job on the letter from the FBI and created a fake document, saying that the FBI *were* endorsing his work. If you read the FBI document, it says that J. Edgar Hoover ordered his agents to read Adamski the riot act which they did and told him to stop all this foolishness and to stop interfering with FBI documents. That's a very serious issue when it comes to somebody's credibility, particularly Adamski's, the fact that he was literally distorting the facts concerning the FBI and his involvement with him, to the point of constructing bogus documents.

That's not me saying that, as you know from reading the book; it's in the FBI's official files, so if people have a problem with that, I say, take it up with the FBI but you are not going to like what you hear and see.

SM: Is it a fact or is it just hearsay that he actually had what looked like a diplomatic passport?

NR: Its hearsay, in the sense that it's not officially reported. But that was a story that was circulated at that particular time with people saying he had a diplomatic passport and he seemed to be able to come and go as he pleased. Interestingly enough, all this did surface at the time when rumours were also in circulation that some other contactees were CIA plants to kind of make the subject look ridiculous. Military people were seeing genuinely unknown UFOs, and what better way to deflect it than by saying that some guy had had sex with an alien from Venus or something like that. Not that Adamski said that, but something along those lines to make it look ridiculous and take away from the more ironically down-to-earth UFO reports, the more sober ones.

That's an interesting theory. The only major problem I have with it, and as you know in the book, there is some evidence that a lot of people did support that theory in the 50s that some of the contactees were plants, is that people like Adamski, in particular were saying that the aliens he was in touch with were communists, which would seem to promote the idea that if our space visitors were communists, then would that really be something that the CIA would want to promote?

SM: Well did he not really say that their societies were "communist like"?

NR: What happened was, somebody asked Adamski what nature of government and society these aliens had? He said something along the lines of, "If you ask me, probably communist like in nature" and this obviously flew the red flags up at the FBI and it was one of the key reasons why Adamski was put under surveillance by the FBI.

He was a published author and the book he wrote with Desmond Leslie, "Flying Saucers Have Landed" was actually a massive bestseller and sold in six figures, so when you have this guy on the lecture circuit, a best-selling author, talking about communist aliens coming to earth, you can imagine that that would cause alarm bells to ring. You can easily imagine that behind the closed doors of the FBI headquarters or the Pentagon, people would have been thinking, "Hang on a minute. Is it possible that these people are red sympathisers? No good commies trying to get their word across but like doing it under a UFO banner?"

I don't actually think that was the case. I think Adamski said these things perhaps not realising what effect it would have. But, on the other hand, there is a good argument that can be made, certainly, that some of these contactees, particularly the more politically oriented ones like Adamski, were specifically being watched purely and simply because they were perceived by the official

world at least as spreading communist propaganda. Now, the big question there is, was there something behind that? Was that a legitimate agenda where he was working with someone else or some other organisation either wittingly or unwittingly? I think that's open to debate but there is no doubt that that was what the FBI was looking into and there is no doubt as well that a lot of the leading UFO researchers, particularly Leonard Stringfield who I quote in the book from one of his old publications, was quite clear on the fact that he heard stories that certain people within the contactee community were plants designed to discredit the subject.

The big question is, were they our plants or were they working for some overseas organisation? It's that long ago now and the people are dead. I think we can get part of the story from the file and we can pretty much understand that the surveillance of the contactees was primarily because of the overly political nature of what they were saying, of which the UFO angle was obviously an important part but was secondary to the context in which it was presented.

As a matter of interest, there are smaller files on contactees like Truman Bethurum who claimed to have been in touch with these aliens from a planet that he called Clarion which was like a sister planet to the earth. Supposedly, the captain of this flying saucer was a woman called Aura Rahnes.

SM: This is the guy whose wife ended up divorcing him.



Truman Bethurum

NR: Yes, I think if he had engineered it carefully, he might have had the first intergalactic threesome. Sadly, it never worked out for him. That story was like bordering on the farcical, it was just a funny story, but he was locked in with these contactees.

George Williamson was another one. Daniel Fry wrote a book about his experiences at White Sands with this alien that he called A-Lan which sounded distinctly like Alan apart from a dash between the A and the L.

A lot of the stories followed the same path of human-like aliens that come to earth and have meetings out in the desert where they suggest that we disarm and that they are peace loving etc, which is fair enough. A lot of the stories were just entertaining tales.

SM: Historically, looking back, Van Tassel seems more straightforward than the legacy that Adamski has left behind him. I don't know if you would concur with that but it strikes me that Van Tassel was fairly straightforward with what he was doing.

NR: He wasn't talking about communism but he was, for example, in one of his lectures, talking about biblical issues. America is a very religious country and to have this guy at the height of the Cold War talking about how actually the aliens were responsible for various biblical legends, the story of Adam and Eve, Noah's Ark, all these tales he was saying were directly borne out of UFO accounts and events. He was also talking about the US economy and although he wasn't as overtly political as Adamski, he was still saying things that attracted FBI attention.

So again, it's not surprising that the FBI interviewed Van Tassel about his experiences and his thoughts on the things he was talking about. They even sent people along to listen to his lectures. One of the FBI reports on a Van Tassel

lecture from I think in 1960 in Colorado was that extensive that it actually made me wonder if a covert audio recording had been made of the lecture. It's that deeply covered in the FBI file and it's a really extensive review of all the main points in his lecture.

All the main contactees of that era were watched but I think it's significant that the lengthier files are the ones on Adamski and Van Tassel who were the people who were saying the more controversial things.

SM: You then move onto Men in Black.

NR: I do.

SM: And your conclusion at the very end of the chapter actually is one I have come across before; that it might just have been a piss take by the 1127 Field Activities Group.

NR: There had been a few pre mid 50s Men in Black type stories, and certainly the Maury Island case of '47 does actually have several Men in Black type angles to it with people being literally visited by suited type people and generally being intimidated. A friend of mine back in England, Nigel Wright, uncovered details from the turn of the century where people had been visited by men in horse drawn carriages who asked them if they had seen any strange airships flying around the country and that if they had, they shouldn't talk about them. So there are little fragmentary MIB type tales going back decades and decades.

But what happened in the early to mid-50s was that this guy named Albert Bender, the unfortunately named Albert Bender, who said that he had had this experience where, while he had been doing his UFO investigations, these three guys in black suits and hats kind of materialised in his house and said that he had stumbled upon the truth behind the UFO mystery and that this was why it could never be revealed. And after that, for the most part, Bender decided to get out of the UFO subject.



Albert Bender

But he imparted the details to a writer called Gray Barker and Barker wrote a book called "They Knew Too Much about Flying Saucers". It's actually a pretty good book and although he did get a lot of criticism, he is actually a very good writer. He could craft and weave a story and put it together and instead of just putting down the facts, he was actually able to transfer the facts into a very readable format. So he wrote this book and

published it and it was brought to the attention of the FBI. The strangest thing I found was that none other than J. Edgar Hoover himself actually ordered one of his agents to get him a copy of the book in 1958, a couple of years after it was published.



Gray Barker

The Men in Black motif really began to take off in the 50s and particularly in the 60s, although today you don't so much get as many reports, although they still do surface occasionally. But the 50s and 60s in particular was when the Men in Black wave was at its height and I think that what happened was that regardless of whether or not Bender had real experiences, and I think if you look at his initial experience, there is an argument for saying that it had a shamanic angle to it as well, but government and intelligence agencies are not stupid and when it comes to something like UFOs and the people within the subject, then they are looking at ways to investigate it and investigate people in the subject in a way that is not going to draw attention to the FBI or CIA or military intelligence, or whoever is doing it.

I actually think that what they did in Britain and America was to pick up on this MIB motif and actually began exploiting it for their own needs because it acts as good camouflage and cover for several reasons. For example, if you saw a UFO tomorrow then there might be multiple reasons why it might be of interest to a military agency who might send somebody around in a black suit and with a black trilby hat and black sunglasses and a black colour and they warn you not to talk about it, so you don't. You are scared and you're not likely to tell people that a Man in Black turned up on your doorstep because it makes you look stupid. So that acts as good cover and by using the MIB motif, if you go and complain to your local Air Force Base, they will deny any knowledge of it, which is probably the truthful answer.

So it allows military agencies that want to collect UFO data to have perfect camouflage by using this cover story of the Men in Black. Now that opens up another can of worms -- are their real Men in Black?

SM: When you say real Men in Black, do you mean aliens?

NR: When you look at Men in Black stories, they all seem to fall into two camps. You have one which seems obviously to be UFO collectors if you like, from government or military intelligence agencies, exploiting the Men in Black mystery.

But there are also far weirder Men in Black type reports which seem to fall into more of an unexplained category. These cases of the more unexplained ones can only be considered genuine if the witnesses are reporting them genuinely and it may be the case that some of them are manipulation by the intelligence services to make the cases seem weird and far out to further steer the people away from the idea that these were government agents.

But there are a lot of these reports of these Men in Black being short guys, 5 feet tall, looking oriental and with wigs and make up on, very odd and bizarre reports. I don't dispute these reports and it's not beyond the bounds of possibility or even probability that psychological warfare planners might even go to that extent in order to spook people out of investigating UFOs and really frighten them with some creepy little guy who turns up on the doorstep. I think that could have happened.

Now if there are genuinely paranormal and unexplained MIBs as well, and there are a few reports out there that might suggest that there is another angle to this, then these creatures or beings from somewhere else might be responsible for the original Men in Black reports. As crazy and as outlandish as that might sound, it's not something that I rule out.

To side track a little bit; a lot of people presumed or assumed that because I wrote *Body Snatchers* which presented a down-to-earth explanation on Roswell,

that I therefore no longer believe that there is a genuine UFO mystery, which is completely untrue. I wrote a book about one particular case that occurred 60 years ago. If people ask me, I tell them that my views on the idea that these things were extraterrestrial doesn't for me, provide the best explanation for what happened.

But the idea that there is an unexplained UFO phenomenon with us and has been for maybe as long as we've been here is something I still believe. So I don't discount the possibility that some of these MIB reports could have far stranger origins than the backwaters of the CIA or whoever.

SM: I was understandably particularly taken, because this was a story I had never heard before, about the incident at Marconi in Frimley in 1974. What I also found very interesting is that you say in the lead up to it that you don't actually believe that the story was a hoax.

NR: No, I don't. The story was given to me by a woman I interviewed roundabout 1996 or something like that, Hannah Green. She related this account to me about how she had been working there at this particular time and something weird had occurred where a security guard one night had been patrolling the building and had gone into one particular room to find this humanoid figure going through filing cabinets and files and who, when the guard came into the room, literally vanished into thin air.

People can scoff and laugh at something like that. The source of the story certainly had no reason to create bogus stories and her background checked out, and so forth. As I pointed out in the book, this was maybe an example of the UFO intelligences doing a bit of spying and surveillance themselves, kind of turning the tables so to speak.

When I originally got this account, I shared it with a couple of friends and one suggested that maybe it was a kind of remote viewing thing, some sort of psychic penetration that had actually succeeded. That's a possibility as much as the idea that the figure was some sort of other worldly intelligence. I don't believe the story is a hoax and I believe that the basic facts that somebody saw this apparition type figure in the room, which was a classified room full of classified material and documentation, and that the figure subsequently vanished as soon as the security guard got in there, I think those facts are true.

How we take it further than that in determining what was going on, I'm not sure. When you look in the context of official files put together at that particular time on things like psychic spying and surveillance and remote viewing, you can place it into that context because a lot of that research was at its height in the early to mid-70s. So there could be a tie in there.

SM: You place what I consider to be a very interesting slant on the abduction phenomena in the book. I don't know whether what I have picked up or sensed was deliberate on your part or whether it's just the way it worked out when you wrote it, but if you take for example the abduction case of Tammy, which was absolutely fascinating, there is only one conclusion I think one can come to which is that in her case at least, her abduction was clearly a military originated event.

NR: I'm just not sure. A lot of people get quite disturbed when I tell them what I actually think is going on with abductions. I think there are three things going on. I think you have genuine abductions, military abductions, and military surveillance of abductees, all for various reasons.

Personally, I don't for one minute believe that aliens from wherever are coming here to take our DNA because their race is dying etc but I do believe that abductions occur and I think they are occurring in altered states to some extent.

If you look back in mythology and folklore over hundreds of years, you will find many similar accounts where people have interacted with the fairies or the goblins of some other realm and they have been taken away and when they came back, two days had gone by, and they had to mate with the Fairy Queen. A lot of these fairy and goblins and Pixie accounts of hundreds of years ago, regardless of the fact that a lot of UFO researchers have their blood pressure raised every time this is mentioned, but you do see a lot of very intriguing parallels between these accounts. Even the religious and biblical accounts have stories where people have had a spontaneous encounter with some sort of higher entity which has changed their lives overnight, and you find a lot of alien abductees become vegetarian and begin to become concerned about the environment, and so on.



The Fairy Queen – she was always up for it.

I think the alien abduction motif, as we see it; the simplistic black and white story that aliens from another planet are coming to visit us and extract sperm and ova and mix our DNA with theirs to create a hybrid race is what we read about in a lot of UFO literature. I don't believe that and I have interviewed now a lot of people, civilian abductees and people from the military and intelligence world who paint a far more disturbing picture about what the military suspects is going on with abductions and why it watches people within the abductee community so closely.

Certain people within the military and intelligence world came to the conclusion in the early through to the late 70s that actually a lot of what we call these abductions are actually an ingeniously created cover story and that these creatures are not aliens and are far stranger and in many ways more disturbing. I have now interviewed about 12 or 13 retired military people that were actually directly involved in the surveillance of abductees and they came to the conclusion that these things were kind of like tied in with the realm of the dead. They weren't aliens but were some sort of poorly understood phenomenon that interacts with our species.....

SM: You use the word "demonic" in the book.

NR: Yes, that's one of the things that came up that there was a fear on the part of the military and intelligence world that these creatures were demonic like and that they fed tulpa style on human souls and that their purpose in interacting with us was to harvest human souls as a kind of emotional feeding for themselves.

A tulpa is a thought form which you can create if you know the steps to take and it gains sustenance and existence in our environment, and the more people that believe in it, the stronger it gets and feeds upon human emotion. Well, kind of along the same path but not exactly the same was the idea that these things require sustenance and their sustenance comes out of the human life force, the human soul, and that the whole purpose of alien abductions is that these things originate in the realm of the dead and that the alien abduction motif is an ingenious cover for the fact that they manipulate and harvest human souls.

As strange as that sounds, that is the conclusion that a lot of military and intelligence people came to.

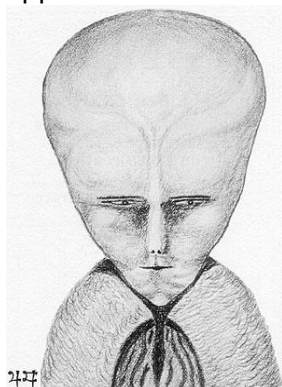
SM: How did they come to that conclusion? That's what I'm curious about.

NR: It was two things. One was listening to abductees and listening to their stories about how the kindly aliens had told them "don't worry, this is all for your own good etc". Some people have responded by saying that that's because the aliens want to warn us about what's in our future unless we try and change it. The military came to the conclusion that perceptively psychic people who were being abducted were actually picking up on the fact that the aliens, or whatever they were, wanted to try and engineer these Armageddon scenarios because if those scenarios are engineered into reality then a substantial amount of the population is going to be killed or will die, and then you will have this huge soul feeding if you like.

SM: I hear what you are saying but what was interesting was that when the second lot of investigators called on Tammy after that first idiot frightened the life out of her, what they appeared to be very interested in, to put it succinctly was whether she had turned into a New Ageist since her experience.

NR: You can look at it from two angles and this is why it is such an interesting and complex story at the same time. That whole scenario which I have just laid out to you could in fact itself be disinformation to hide the fact that aliens are really coming or, that it was a military experiment and they wanted to see how successful it had been. And the best way to see how successful a military experiment has gone is to interview the people who have been experimented on, and see if they fell for the ruse.

I think, as I point out at several points in the chapter, there is evidence that there have been some military abductions involving sophisticated weapons testing, non lethal weaponry, hallucinogenics, probably far more advanced and sophisticated offshoots of the M. K. Ultra project, and so on. I am quite sure, based upon a lot of the interviews I have done, some of which are in the book, that some of the abductions were the result of these testings being done by the military and intelligence agencies and then having these people afterwards going out and interviewing or speaking to the abductees to see how effective they were and if the people actually earnestly believed these events were really occurring as it appeared to them.



Crowley's LAM

This was one of the things with Tammy. She was asked if her views had changed on life. Had she become or taken an interest in vegetarianism, New Age issues, and things like that. The fact is that a lot of people involved in abductions do take on those traits. They do become more concerned about the bigger worldview, if you like.

Now of course the question is, what's going on and why is it happening? As I said, one project I'm working on is this issue of government surveillance of abductees and one thing that isn't in the book because it's getting into very, very way out areas, and it would probably have taken a lot of explaining for people who weren't aware of it, is that one of the areas I have done a lot of research in is in the research of Alistair Crowley and this entity called Lam that he invoked.

If you look at pictures of Lam, it looks like a classic grey alien. One of the intelligence people that I interviewed, and this is a story that I want to try and get out in the next couple of years, said that the military people who believed the

demonic theory to be the correct one, actually began to try to do their own research by trying to invoke these creatures themselves. That resulted in all sorts of bizarre events like psychic backlash and spontaneous appearances of weird creatures in their homes or place of work late at night, to the point where it was as if they had brought some evil presence into the world.

That was one of the things that convinced a lot of the military people involved in this project that that's what these things were because they actually used archaic invocations to try to summon these things up. It sounds bizarre but if you look at what else was going at that time like remote viewing and psychic spying, it's not that way out.

As I pointed out in my "Strange Secrets" book, in the 60s in particular the military were looking into ways of manipulating and using witchcraft as a tool of espionage. There is a whole chapter in that book called *Warfare and Witchcraft* which talks about official files on the manipulation of belief systems concerning witchcraft from a psychological warfare perspective.

So it gets into quite disturbing areas which a number of people I have spoken to about this find very unsettling. The analogy is these aliens are like the farmer looking after the cows. The cows love the farmer because he feeds them every day. "How can he be a bad guy because he brings us hay and we live in a nice warm barn at night?" From their logical perspective, he's their good friend until the day he puts them on the wagon to be taken to the slaughterhouse.

Dick Hall made a remark recently about how, in a lot of the abduction cases, there was evidence that there was manipulation at work and deceit on the part of the alien intelligences. It could be something similar. People are taken away, they are told not to worry and that this is all for the good of humanity and a lot of them do take on a feeling of love towards these creatures and have a deep bond with them. I find that quite suspicious; these entities or whatever they are, skulking around in the middle of the night, taking people and making sure that they realise they are aliens and are their friends, I find all that very suspicious and I find I do wonder whether the other angle is the correct one and that these things are alien in the literal sense but not in the sense that they come from another planet.

SM: But if an entity was feeding on somebody's soul.....

NR: I don't mean literally feeding to get calories. An extension of this theory is that these entities or whatever they are live in some sort of twilight realm and one interviewee suggested the possibility that these things are reaping or pulling our memories after death, almost as their form of entertainment. It's like capturing somebody's life force or soul which contains their life memories and that's almost along the lines of replaying their entire life experience. Is that what it's all about? Are we their equivalent of a video game? It gets into very bizarre realms when you actually sit down as I have done with a retired military guy in his 60s who said that 25 years ago, he and several of his colleagues had a late-night, round the table experience to try and summon up demonic beings that they thought were responsible for alien abductions. When you actually hear these people, who had life careers in the military, talking about the way in which they suspected that these were demonic creatures and what they got up to, well, it's a bizarre experience just to hear that story.

Now, whether it's disinformation or whether they genuinely believed it, I'm not sure. One of the reasons I am inclined to believe it was because several of the guys told me about how, when the project had closed down, they just continued

to do it off the record, not as part of some government project. So they weren't trying to force feed me the idea that it was some super secret project going on for years and years and years, although I think aspects of it have been. But it was more along the lines of, "Wow, this is really weird and if the government isn't going to fund it any more, then let's do it privately".

SM: You quoted them as saying that yes, some of them thought that this was what was going on, but they also thought, at least in relation to the opinions that were relayed to Tammy, that some of the abductions were genuine, at least in terms of being alien abductions.

NR: It wasn't so much that they thought that some were demonic and some were alien, it was that different people in the group came to different conclusions. Some of the people involved in the investigations thought it was more of a daemonic thing; some of them thought it was a physical alien experience, which kind of rings true.

If there was a centralised body working out of Kirtland Air Force Base at the time, this small project that Tammy said was described to her not as abductions but as kidnappings, then that too makes a kind of sense because the term "Alien Abductions" wasn't in use back then. So that kind of rings true and I suspect that if you have a group of maybe 10 or 20 people working on this project to determine what this emerging alien abduction or kidnapping thing was, then the people within the project would have differing views.

But again may be, as the people in the military and intelligence world have exploited the MIB motif, then I think also what's happened is that they have thought, "Now hang on a minute. We are also developing these mind altering weapons etc so maybe it's possible that we can test a few of these things out and can use the alien abduction Motif as a cover for these sophisticated weapons testing operations?" And I think that's why the whole thing gets confusing and why in some reports, you have sightings of military people, which ironically was what happened in Tammy's case.

It's possible that these three things that are going on might be interlinked but if that is correct then it creates a puzzle as to which part of the story relates to this thing or what relates to that. There are so many crossovers that you can get confused and flummoxed as to what the full picture is.

SM: Then we come to Allison's case in Arizona which if true, it's obvious was also clearly a military exercise; I mean just an utterly, utterly bizarre one.

NR: I've actually probably uncovered four or five cases along those lines and this was the one that was related to me the most clearly. This lady had about five or six alien abduction experiences, or what were perceived to be as such, and on one occasion the experience transformed into a military abduction. When these events occurred, she would feel groggy and things didn't feel right in the house, as if she had been drugged or something similar.

Then these little guys would enter the room, she'd have the classic alien abduction memories of being laid out on a table and having devices inserted into her and medical tests done etc. However, on one occasion when the event kicked off as it normally did and she had visions of these small creatures scuttling around, suddenly it was as if she came out of this trance like state and before her, instead of these little guys, there were these large, lumbering equivalents of Swat Team meets Delta Force soldiers charging around the house and even they got into a panic when they realised that she was in a fully wide awake state.

SM: What sort of drug, even if secretly induced and unknown to the person being drugged, could guarantee to convey to the victim the belief that they were undergoing an alien abduction experience?

NR: I don't believe there is a drug that can be injected into somebody's arm that could make them believe they were seeing an alien. There is no doubt that there are drugs that can be administered to people to make them openly suggestive to situations. I go back to Rick Strassman's book which is one you definitely ought to read, called *The Spirit Molecule* in which he talks about giving people DMT to induce altered states, and in many of the cases people did report experiences where they communed and interacted with higher entities and there were correlations between what the people saw whereby somebody would see something and another person would see virtually the same thing. So there's no doubt that certain drugs and altered states can make people susceptible to certain situations.

Beyond that, is it required, for example, that if somebody's military abductions are real, that they need to bring in a mask or a dummy to stand in front of the person? They need to do that in order to initially reinforce what is going on.

One thing I will tell you, which isn't in the book and which is purely an aside and which ties in with the alien abduction phenomena and was also, bizarrely, the basis of a plot in an episode of *The X-Files*, and it's this: one of the military people I interviewed who was involved in a project from the early to mid-70s through to about 1981 to determine the origin of these creatures involved in the abductions actually claimed to have seen on a military base in one particular office a classic alien head mask on a desk. He asked what the hell it was and somebody said, "We use it in our operations". Now, that could be a completely bogus story and I cannot prove it, and I have never published that detail before. But it's a classic "What came first? The chicken or the egg?" – *The X-Files* episode or the actual incident? But, if there is any truth to it then it might indicate how it is possible to influence people in altered states that they have seen something that they may not have actually seen.

SM: I hate to do this to you but I want to throw something back at you that you said the last time we actually talked about abductions. You probably don't remember saying this but you did offer the opinion that you were fairly certain that abductions *weren't* military, based purely on the reason that if human beings were involved, given the large number of abductions that have taken place, then there surely would have been a cock up somewhere. And in fact you then go on in the book to point out the cock ups that have occurred in abductions.

NR: What I meant by that was that the many genuine abductions that have gone on are not military. I don't believe that at all. I believe that the vast majority of abductions that have occurred have been done by these creatures. The military ones I think actually account for a very, very small number, we may only be talking about 20 or 30 over the course of the last 30 years, but I think what is important is that maybe some of the military ones have been done on people who were quite influential within the community and could get the word out, to the point where they didn't need to do that many because, if somebody publishes the details in a book and it's read by 2000 or 10,000 people, then that he is 10,000 people who have been exposed to what the military wanted to do without actually having to do the abduction.

SM: One other intriguing comment, coming back to the Tammy case, that was related to her was that those that thought that the phenomena was demonic in

source also felt that political leaders had also been abducted or kidnapped in this way and that when they came back, they were different.

NR: That's right. Again, this is getting into very bizarre, paranoid and some people might even say a sci-fi type scenario, which you can never rule out as not being the case. This is the one thing I want to stress in that this particular chapter in the book makes it very clear, hopefully, that alien abductees have been watched by the military and they have been debriefed by the military and interviewed by military personnel who have expressed an interest in knowing what the abductees know about the subject and their captors.

The biggest grey area (pun intended) was whether or not the information that is being relayed back to the abductees is genuine from the military people they have spoken with or if it's just the military's way of feeding them completely bogus stories to lead them down the wrong path as well. I will be the first to admit, with my hand on my heart, that I just don't know what the truth is, beyond knowing that this is what the people were told.

But, and this is where it gets very bizarre, in the sense that Tammy was told that although a lot of members of the general public and the population at large have supposedly been abducted, that these creatures or aliens are actually also abducting influential people in positions of power. The military were telling abductees that this was being done because there was a fear on the military's part that some of these people had come back a little bit different and their views had changed to the point where some of them wanted to instigate a nuclear war, which would have inevitably lead to worldwide destruction and the end of civilisation. No one can win a nuclear war. With all the deaths that would ensue, there would be plenty of souls to feed on.

Now, again, that's a story. To what extent it has the ring of truth to it or has a disinformation angle to it, I just don't know. You could justifiably say that if it was some huge classified secret then why would the military reveal it to Tammy? That's a good point but on the other hand, may be, as has been argued to me, the military could not come outright and say it because if it was true, there would be worldwide panic.

SM: I think it's worth me stating at this point on the record for those people reading this that might think that Nick has lost his marbles in going on about what is effectively a paranormal situation, that if people cared to dig in and look at it then they would find a great deal of evidence to suggest that there has been a great deal of interest in the occult and in the paranormal, not only at a personal level but also in a collectively personal level in the higher echelons of the intelligence services.

NR: There is no doubt about that. In my *Strange Secrets* book which came out in 2003, I've got a chapter titled "Animals and Espionage" and that talks about how in the 70s, the military had looked into the idea that animals possessed ESP, and it was obvious from reading about it that this was looked at to try and determine if they could understand how ESP work in the animal kingdom and then maybe it could be applied to the military. And it talks about how, in one fairly grisly experiment, a mother rabbit was separated from her infant rabbits and the baby rabbits were taken to another room and the mother was wired up to some sort of electro-type device. The baby rabbits were then killed one by one and although the mother rabbit was in another room, every time one of the babies was killed, there was a detectable rise on the monitoring equipment attached to the mother rabbit. This again highlights some of the very weird areas in which the military has been involved in.



Whitley Strieber

But, a lot of people who think that abductions are purely physical should read some of the Whitley Strieber's books. *Communion* and *Transformation* particularly go into areas that make it very clear that abductions, even if they are physical, go far beyond the physical and that these creatures seem to be able to transcend dimensions and even transcend the physical plane into the realm of the dead if you like.

If you look back at people like Alistair Crowley summoning up this LAM entity, you get a lot of crossovers and there is no doubt, although a lot of people don't want to admit it, that if you go back to the 1500s and look at these old stories and the folklore of England, there are classic parallels. The more sceptical people would say that this was just purely and simply human nature and something in our collective unconscious, but I don't think it is. I think it is something changing throughout the years to suit the belief systems of the people at the time and it is manipulating us for whatever it wants to do. I don't think there's actually anything positive about abductions for the human race. I think that people themselves are being manipulated and although some abductees might feel that it is all to their benefit and a good thing, I don't believe that. I think it is totally negative from our perspective and we are being lulled into a false sense of security, whether it's aliens or not.

SM: We come onto the subject of Apen, which was absolutely fascinating and to me is the most interesting part of the book. But, before we start down that, I think we ought to talk about The Sandman.

NR: There is one other thing I want to stress; I have written eight books, six of which have so far been published and the other two are coming out later this year, and of those eight book's, *Body Snatchers* had two sources that didn't want to speak on the record, and this book has one – the guy I call the Sandman. I try not to work with sources that won't speak on the record. I like to try and document everything and be able to say to people, "Here is the person, speak to them yourself".

But, when you're dealing with a subject like official secrecy, UFOs, and secrets that may still be secret, then I don't think I have done too badly at all to have just three people, whistleblowers, who weren't prepared to go onto the record. Occasionally this happens.

What happened was, a number of years ago, probably '98 or '99, I began telling a few people quietly within the UFO subject that I had a contact that worked in Special Branch who knew something about the way in which Special Branch had monitored people in the UFO subject. I remember I told Matthew Williams, David Clark, Andy Roberts and a few others that I had done these off-the-cuff interviews and conversations that focused on Apen and the supposed UFO crash on Mt Berwyn in 1974, and that it was all tied in with the right wing groups. There were fragments of the story that I had got and so I kept in touch with this guy to the point where there was enough material to sit down and do a full interview in order to get a clearer picture of what went on, or at least as clear as he claimed it was.

People are going to say again, as they did with *Body Snatchers* that maybe I have been deceived and that is not impossible, but I think based on what I was told, it makes sense.

SM: I fully agree with you. There was nothing that you reported him as saying which caused any sort of reaction to stir within me as being unlikely or improbable or that caused an uncomfortable feeling. If he was lying, he got past my radar. As you quite rightly say, it all made perfect sense. But how did you get to make contact with him in the first place?

NR: It actually relates to several things. One was the fact that in the mid-1990s, I began to do a lot of research into the way in which Special Branch in particular and the various intelligence related people within the police force were watching people who in the 1980s were involved in the punk rock music spin-off called *Oi!* A lot of the bands within this genre had a lot of very, very racist overtones to them, a lot of ultra right wing groups that took a lot of their names from right-wing literature and things like that. And they were being watched very closely By Special Branch and by some of the intelligence services because they were seen as recruiting grounds for ultra right-wing groups, which you can understand.

I began to do a lot of research into this with a view to actually writing a book, which in the end I never got round to doing, on the way in which British intelligence watched people in the music field, which we know happened with people like John Lennon for example. That was one of the areas I was looking into and the guy I interviewed for *Saucer Spies*, the Sandman, was peripherally at least, involved in one of these investigations.



Crass

I sat down on several occasions with him and he gave me a few leads and tips on some of the bands that were being watched. But it wasn't just the ultra right-wing *Oi!* bands under surveillance, but even the bands like *the Sex Pistols* and one in particular called *Crass* who were a very influential political band in the early 1980s which, if you are outside of Britain and outside of the punk community you probably wouldn't know about. They in particular were watched very, very closely although I must stress that they had

nothing to do with ultra right-wing politics whatsoever and were in fact the complete opposite. But it was politically orientated bands that were being watched at that particular time. Even *UB40* at that particular time were very much a political band.

SM: Yes, they were.

NR: It was groups like that, and it was the through that medium that I got involved because this guy was involved primarily with issues relating to monitoring right-wing organisations and ultra political groups of various leanings, both left and right. So that's how we kind of made initial contact, with me following these links.

I don't go into that in the book, and I was never part of the *Oi!* Movement, but I did go to a lot of punk gigs, and still do.

SM: So you just kept coming up, in one shape or form, on Special Branch's radar, be it with the punk movement or the animal rights movement or eventually, UFOs.

NR: Yes. Special Branch were involved in a lot of these investigations when the information came forward about the rock groups. Then it was just a case of casual conversation and I gave him a copy of *Covert Agenda* when that was published as he was interested because he knew about some of the material in there because I had a chapter on the phantom helicopter wave as it was called in 1973. That began to open up further and develop further to the point where I began to realise what was going on; namely that Special Branch were watching people that it perceived to be so-called subversives – a quaint government terminology if ever there was one. Then I took it a stage further and started to delve into it as far as I could and the results are what you read.

SM: I'm curious when talking about Apen, and I think when British people have had a chance to read the book, this is the one question that you're probably going to get asked time and time again in one shape or form or another; why didn't you publish the names of the people, of the well-known Ufologist's that were known to the Special Branch at the time as being in Apen?

NR: Well purely and simply because I can't prove it. To name for five or six people who this person claimed were tied with this organisation and who are still alive, although I think one of them is now dead, from a legal perspective is something that I cannot do. That's the only reason, there is no other reason. I cannot publish in a magazine or in *The Sun* newspaper for example that Stuart Miller works for the KGB because quite rightly and legitimately you would take legal action against me and you would win. If it happened to be true then that's a different thing but it's proving it to be true that is the problem and if you can't prove it, you just cannot say that about someone.

So what I did was to relate the basic facts of what he said; that certain players within British ufology were extreme right-wingers.

SM: Off the record and not for publication, would you care to name them?

NR: No, not particularly. Although there is no doubt that if you look into the literature at that time, it doesn't become difficult to find out that there were people who even weren't tied with this Apen thing who had ultra right-wing leanings at that time.

SM: Where in all of that does Tim Matthews fit in?

NR: Actually, and that's the interesting thing, with all the investigations I did and all the people I spoke to, his name never surfaced. Tim is an interesting character and people have made all these sorts of claims about his background and about this and that but his name never actually turned up at all. It wasn't the case of I deliberately didn't put anything in, he just never surfaced.

SM: In terms of the people mentioned to you, and you said that one of them has subsequently died, are any of them now still active within ufology?

NR: Not that I've seen but whether they are behind the scenes, I don't know. But let me get into this whole Apen thing. In the mid- to latter part of 1973, there began this wave of sightings of what became known as Phantom helicopters across Middle and northern England. There is no doubt that there seems to have been a legitimate number of genuine unexplained helicopter encounters. I think

there was also a degree of people just getting caught up in the mystery of it all and interpreting every light as a weird helicopter, or even just misinterpreting the local police helicopter that might have been out chasing kids stealing cars.

But there is no doubt that in the latter part of '73, there was this wave of encounters that whipped up the press and the media and there was all sorts of talk about IRA terrorists coming in under cover of darkness or that it was drug smugglers, but it basically came down to the fact that somebody or a group of people were flying unmarked and unknown helicopters late at night and in the early hours of the morning around central and northern England. And it actually did tie in occasionally with a few UFO reports as well, and it did at first fall into more of the UFO category then just a straightforward sighting of a helicopter.

This went on through the latter part of 1973 and into January of 1974 and then in that month, you had this incident occur on the Berwyn Mountains in North Wales.



Berwyn

Dave Clark got hold of some of the files on the Phantom helicopter reports showing that various organisations and official bodies were involved in the investigation to two different degrees, like the Ministry of Defence and Special Branch. They looked at these various theories as to what was going on, and then along came Berwyn when,

depending on whose side of the story you accept, aliens from the other side of the Galaxy crashed or nothing crashed and it was just a combination of guys out hunting hares with powerful lamps, or bollide meteorites and earth tremors. Some even thought that some military experiment or accident had occurred.

One of the things that the Sandman told me had happened was that there were people within the Special Branch, and we know that because we can verify that through the files that Dave Clarke got, who were involved in the Phantom helicopter investigation and there were also people within Special Branch who were looking at right wingers who were trying to set up some sort of underground right wing recruitment organisation. They would monitor these peoples' phone calls and it transpired that when they were listening into these conversations, it became quite clear that some of these ultra right wingers, or fascists is a better way to describe them, had an interest in UFOs. That was about five or six people, and on several occasions, because it was the same timeframe, they were talking about these weird helicopter waves.

So what you had was one arm of Special branch investigating the helicopters and another arm investigating the right wingers and you would never imagine there would be a crossover between the two.

But it was when the right wingers began speaking about these helicopter encounters that the Special Branch began to wonder if there was a connection between these two things. There actually never was and all it was, was that coincidentally, a group of these fascists had an interest in UFOs while at the same time being watched by Special Branch, never realising that Special Branch was investigating something else that they were also looking into, namely the phantom helicopters.

So Special Branch got their heads together and realised there was a connection between these two independent strands of investigation. It became clear to them that these fascists had got this plan together to try and recruit people into an ultra right-wing group perhaps by preying on disaffected young people who would be easier to target and to set up an underground right-wing organisation in England. How do you go about doing it? Do you hold demonstrations and invite people along? Or do you take kind of a backdoor route, which they did, and use the cover of an interest in ufology as a means of recruiting from within ufology?

Special Branch knew that these people had set up this Apen organisation; The Aerial Phenomena Inquiry Network as it was termed. The pretext was that it would be a UFO research organisation, and as Special Branch listened and watched as the situation unveiled, what the Apen people did was actually quite clever in that they played UFO groups and organisations off against each other with smear campaigns, such as claiming that this particular person had taken the subscription money and was going off on a holiday to Spain, or that that particular person worked for MI5, and so on. The idea was to create enough of a division so that it would actually fracture the groups, and then Apen would plunder the spoils and hopefully recruit them into their ranks while making it look like they were joining a UFO research organisation but with a very political overtones, and they would carefully targets certain people who they thought might be open to them.

SM: The question I wanted to ask was, when on the very rare occasions that politics has this crept into ufology, why has it always been to do with the extreme right and not the left?

NR: That's actually a very interesting question. When you look at the UFO subject and cults and things, you're right, you do find that and I just don't know why that is the case. But there have been several occasions, you're quite right, where ultra rightists have become linked with the UFO subject. As far as I'm concerned, the clearest example I found was the Apen story but if you also look in the contactee chapter in the book, you will find people in there who were linked with groups like the Soul Shirts in the wartime era and post-war era too.



Jenny Randles

SM: A few moments ago, you mentioned the word "clever" in connection with Apen, and clever they obviously were. You even have Jenny Randles acknowledging how clever they were for picking on the Berwyn incident in the first place when it had originally completely bypassed ufology.

NR: When you look at the Apen group, and before we start getting into the Special Branch angle, what they did was indeed very clever. They set themselves up as this organisation and intimated that they had links with the government. That's a classic way to entice people into the subject.

And then on top of that, to start creating divisions within the UFO community in order to fracture it and then reorganise it under an Apen banner was all extremely devious and very well thought out. Printing letter headed stationery and sending things out inviting people to join this group and post marking correspondence from all over the country – it worked well and it would have worked better had it not been due to the fact that they were being listened to by

Special Branch who in turn then realised that there was a crossover with the helicopter investigation. At that point it really took off then as one unified investigation of these people and this group. The Sandman stressed to me on more than one occasion that the Special Branch does not investigate UFOs but that it has investigated people within the UFO subject.

From there the story gets even more bizarre when it became quite clear that they were actually trying to recruit people, and they even may have had some success. At that point, Special Branch decided to take it to another level and began faking its own Apen documents, but the ones that they faked really amplified and went over the top with the right wing angle and that was basically done to scare influential people within the UFO subject away from Apen who might have been thinking about joining the group. But sending out tape recordings of Nazi war marches and amplifying this ultra right-wing angle actually had the desired affect and made people think that they were right wing nutters.

SM: The Sandman described them as a particularly dangerous group of people way beyond The British Movement and there is a strong implication that they were considering political assassinations.

NR: The information that I included in the book on that is as it was told to me and there is nothing that I deleted from that. He didn't want to speak about it any more than that and it was made clear to me that the reason why these people were considered so disturbing was because they were seen to be planning some very proactive thing. They weren't just going to be standing on the street corner giving out literature and leaflets. They wanted to get things done and achieve things and that's what they were seen as so dangerous. I remember asking why they didn't just arrest them but the problem was that nobody had actually done anything wrong and it was considered better to see who they were speaking with and who they were in touch with, and just follow the entire network. It also enabled them to get a better handle on what was going on in the ultra right-wing underground movement in England.

SM: But Apen must have twigged, if they hadn't before, that Special Branch were on to them when the new Apen tapes started to appear.

NR: I'm not entirely sure that they twigged that it was Special Branch but they must have realised that somebody else was sending out material from a second Apen. Special Branch didn't want to give themselves away and wanted people in the subject to think that it was Apen, but that they were over the top nutters. That was the whole point; to make it look like it was the original Apen who had taken their thing to the next step and revealed their hand, when in actuality the real Apen was trying to be a bit more discreet.

SM: Just coming back to who these guys were, I presume that you know them all or know most of them personally?

NR: No I don't. I have never met any of them personally but you have to bear in mind that this was 74/75. In 1975 I was 10 years old. I wasn't running round firing off letters to the MoD at age 10. I wasn't that precocious.

SM: With this chapter on Apen I think you do clear up a major mystery within British ufology.

N R: The one thing I need to stress is that the people who were under surveillance and who were linked with this right wing organisation were predominantly people who were only in the subject from the early 70s through to,

at most, the late 70s. One or two have gone for a while after but most of them were active around 74/75/76 and not really that active after that period. At that time I was just riding my bike around town. So no, I never knew any of these people. I looked into them and they were fairly influential people in the subject at the time but on the other hand, they weren't of the equivalent of somebody like Graham Birdsall who was in the subject for 25 years, or like Jenny Randles who is still in the subject now. They are people who came and went and there are indeed a lot of people in the subject who do that. They come along, they do a couple of books and then they are gone again, and I think that is what happened with these people. It's possible that at that time, their involvement may have carried on had it not been due to the fact that to an extent, they were defused by Special Branch who put the word out as to what these people's agenda really were.



Graham Birdsall

The next question is whether they tried to recruit from elsewhere? That I don't know. You still occasionally get references to Apen surfacing here and there, like Rendlesham for example. So it sounds like occasionally they will resurface when they think things have gone quiet and it is time to try something else perhaps.

SM: Larry Bryant. There's a man that made a sacrifice, career wise at least. He really has sacrificed his career on behalf of his research, hasn't he?

NR: Yes. He has filed FOIAs with the military and all sorts of people. He was with the military for a long time and to stand up and do that requires a lot of courage, but particularly when it's a controversial thing and you're talking also about government secrecy. There was an FBI record put together on him as you will know from the book that made it very clear that a lot of the interest stemmed from the fact that he was looking into the UFO subject and I think that it's probably something that happens a lot. I'm sure there are more examples that we know of where people who work either for the government or the military or the intelligence community and have an interest in ufology – when they start looking into the subject am quite sure that red flag goes up immediately.



Larry Bryant

But again, it's another good indicator of the fact that government agencies monitor people in the subject and why they monitor them. In this case they monitor them because they are their own employee.

SM: Mutilations. You write a fair bit about that. Very interesting the abduction of Myrna Hanson, being on a helicopter and also having a struggling cowl being winched up!

NR: No, it wasn't on the helicopter. What happened was, and this was spelled out more in Greg Bishop's *Project Beta* book, is that Myrna Hanson had this UFO experience in 1973 whilst driving home late at night, in which it later became clear through hypnosis that she had seen this struggling cow lifted up into a UFO and it was a classical mutilation situation, though one in which she herself was

subjected to an abduction experience. There seemed to be some sort of military involvement and interest in the case as well, but it again raises the question about which abductions are genuine and which are military and so on.

But there is no doubt that many of the key players in that particular story, to varying degrees, were watched. For example, there were large files put together on cattle mutilation by the FBI, even to the extent of the FBI going out to public lectures and seminars, and sitting down and listening to what was being spoken about. That's one of the areas I cover in the book, about what went on at some UFO conferences and that also happened with the cattle mutilation subject.

Greg Bishop, who had been friends with a Bill Moore for years and who was one of the key players in the Bennewitz story, he experienced all sorts of things like mail tampering, weird telephone calls, things like that. Paul Bennewitz was subjected to massive surveillance and was acquainted with people attached to the New Mexico State police Department which was also investigating animal mutilation. So a lot of these people were all interlinked. Bill Moore's FBI file as far back as 1993 was already running at more than 60 pages. So you had all these people who are interlinked in the animal mutilation mystery, in New Mexico, all investigating of various phenomena and all being the subject of various degrees of official surveillance.

Now, was that because they had hooked into something to do with aliens? Or was it some sort of bio weapon test or a fear that some sort of virus had got out into the food chain and random tests were being done on the animals to check it out, or is it all three? Or is it something else? I don't know but I think it's important to stress that when you begin to look into the animal mutilation mystery, you do find firm evidence of many of the key players being the subject of surveillance or becoming the subject of files themselves.

SM: The way you write the Bennewitz/mutilations bit in the book, there is what I perceive to be an inference there that animal mutilations and Bennewitz were all lumped together. Is that correct?

NR: It is lumped together because part of the thing that Bennewitz was looking into was the Myrna Hanson story and a central part of that were animal mutilations. The whole point was that the intelligence people at Kirtland wanted to divert Bennewitz from looking at Kirtland Air Force Base's classified projects and they started spreading the stories about underground bases and weird things going on at Dulce in the northern New Mexico. But coincidentally or not, Dulce was an area or beacon for a massive wave of animal mutilation events in the mid to late 70s.

So the military actually directed Bennewitz to an area where a whole range of animal killings were going on, and if you look at the declassified FBI files, there are numerous reports in there from the Dulce police. You don't need to look at books or lectures or books by UFO researchers; just look at the New Mexico State police reports and you find evidence of tranquilising drugs being injected into animals, animals with their legs dislocated as if they had been pulled into the air by their legs and the weight of the body had dislocated their limbs, strange substances that couldn't be identified by veterinarians at the site where these mutilations had occurred, elevated radiation readings, and so on.

Because this is the exact area where Bennewitz was directed to, there is a key or central link to the Bennewitz story and animal mutilation, which is why I called it all in the same chapter. But again, I think the most important thing as far as the subject matter of the book is concerned, is that not only were these people

investigating these things but they were all being watched to determine what they were concluding and who was speaking to who, and so on.

SM: And I would imagine that there is a great big fat file on Gabe Valdez in there somewhere as well.



Gabe at an incident

NR: Gabe Valdez of the New Mexico State police was in touch with Bennewitz, and he was deeply involved in animal mutilation investigations, so again, I think this is the perfect example of the way this subject is monitored, and as I also point out and reproduced

in the book, official files where the FBI sent people along to a public conference on the animal mutilation subject in 1979. And they actually make reference to some of the research done by some of the early UFO researchers like Tommy Blann who had been investigating the subject and they quite clearly went to great lengths to document what was being said and the various theories.

So all avenues were covered in terms of the surveillance of people in that subject, and I think there is a bigger story on the animal mutilation subject still waiting to be uncovered. Greg definitely touched upon it quite deeply in his book and Kolm Keller in his book "Brain Trust" also did that.

SM: Are you still of that opinion in terms of what was responsible?

NR: I think animal mutilations have got more to do with biological warfare, concerns about emerging viruses and things like that. I think it's got more to do with that than with little green men. I don't completely rule the latter out as there are some weird animal mutilations stories. However, the fact that there are military helicopters being reported in the vicinity of animal mutilations, tranquillisers and drugs found, things like that, is a good indication that we are dealing with something down-to-earth rather than from somewhere else.

SM: Matthew Bevan. You gave him a lot of space and a lot of time. He did push the boat out a little bit, didn't he?

NR: Oh he did, yes. Matthew Bevan is from Cardiff in Wales and he was a self-confessed computer hacker. Between 94 to 96, he hacked into numerous systems such as universities, Lockheed, NASA, the Rome laboratories at Griffiths Air Force Base and Wright Patterson Air Force Base. He actually got into the system at Wright Patterson and found details of e-mail exchanges where one particular team were looking at radical anti gravity style engines, and whether or not such technology was feasible. The e-mails revealed that the scientific personnel involved had undertaken research and had managed to reach speeds of Mach 13 with a prototype device which was described as a split-level design.

He was subsequently arrested while working in Cardiff by Scotland Yard's computer crime unit. He was taken away and questioned quite vigorously, initially being persuaded not to have a solicitor present, about what he was doing and what he was looking for.

Matthew had developed an interest in the UFO subject in the early 90s and basically decided to take the unconventional approach. He was interested in Roswell, Area 51, crashed UFOs and Hangar 18. There he is actually no Hangar 18 at Wright Patterson and there never has been, although there was a Building 18. Hangar 18 has become a mythical catchall title as to where alien bodies and crashed UFO were supposedly stored at Wright Patterson.



Matthew Bevan

Regardless of whether there was any truth to it or not, the military would never admit to it and never has, so Matthew Bevan decided to take the unconventional approach on the basis that if the government wasn't going to give him the information he wanted then he would go and look for it in the government's own files himself. He literally learnt how to hack systems, and did so, and hacked right into the heart of Wright Patterson. He used as a cover servers in Latvia to get into the systems. He was asked quite vigorously and repeatedly by Scotland Yard's computer crime unit, "Did you hack into this system?" "Yes". "Did you download anything?" "No". "Did you read it?" "Yes". "What was it?" "It

was files on anti gravity engines". "Did you print anything?" "No". "Are you sure you didn't print anything?" "Yes". "So you didn't print anything?" And it just went along those lines.

It was quite clear that Scotland Yard's concern, probably related to them by the Americans, was not just that Matthew had read these files on antigravity material online but had actually downloaded it, and worse still, that he wasn't just some teenage kid in his bedroom – which he was – but that there were some sort of sinister motivation going on and that he was in the employ of a foreign power. And they actually requested his bank records back to the age of about 12 or 13 just to see if there were any huge payments being made into his account that could be traced back, in a worst-case scenario, to Moscow or Peking.

What Matthew did he shouldn't have done but the fact was that he did it and the inevitable thought was, on the part of the Americans at least because based on what I was told, the British just thought that he was an *X-Files* idiot, that they wanted to prosecute him. They further alleged that he had actually altered material on the system and that was one of the reasons why they wanted him prosecuted.

But when he got caught, the judge asked to be shown what he had changed, but American intelligence refused to present the evidence which, as Matthew told me, was bizarre. He compared it to a murder case where the prosecution couldn't produce the body or even any evidence at all, and the case was thrown out. And that is what happened. Matthew was arrested, the case went to court and somebody was actually sent over from American intelligence to represent them in the court. The representative was asked what he thought Matthew Bevans

motivation was and he replied that they now believed that he was just looking for UFO information and Hangar 18 and crashed UFOs. The judge asked if all this stuff really did exist and there was quiet laughter in the court when he asked this. The representative from American intelligence replied, "Well I'm not at liberty to discuss things". So they wanted the guy prosecuted but weren't at liberty to discuss things they wanted him prosecuted for.

SM: He had them over a barrel as indeed does the latest current hacker, Gary McKinnon.

NR: This is where I think that the 90s surveillance kicked off big time because American intelligence genuinely thought that Matthew Bevan was possibly working for a foreign power, and he didn't help his cause when he used a server in Latvia to cover his tracks. He was asked all sorts of questions like did he have any political motivation to which he said no. Then Scotland Yard asked if he was a vegetarian and Matthew replied "Well if that's the political motivation than I will plead guilty to that at least".

Eventually the case was thrown out of court by the judge because American intelligence wouldn't offer any information. I first met Matthew in 98 and he was careful in the interview to only specifically discuss the things that were in the court case, that were in the public domain. It wasn't a case of him being found not guilty, the case was just completely thrown out as being without foundation.

SM: I think it was distressing that he was given up by another hacker.

NR: What I was able to demonstrate through the Freedom of Information act was that there were several bodies within US intelligence and military communities that were watching Matthew Bevan's activities. One was the Air force Office Of Special Investigations, another was the Air Force Information Centre, and then there were various other people like the FBI and the NSA. They were all involved to varying degrees and someone from one of these bodies actually described him as the greatest threat to world peace since Adolph Hitler. At the time, Matthew was like a 17-year-old kid in his mum and dad's bedroom in Cardiff.

I think the important thing that you need to remember, which English people will remember more than Americans, was the climate at the time in regards to the UFO subject. In the 50s, 60s, 70s, and 80s, the UFO subject in England was kind of like an underground thing. There were newsletters, there were journals, there were meetings every so often of 30 or 40 people, but there wasn't like a huge movement.

But, from about 94 through to 98, it really began to kick off. The Birdsalls' magazine went news stand. Shortly after you had *Sightings* magazine, *Alien Encounters* magazine, Uri Geller's *Encounters* magazine, *X. Factor* magazine, *UFO Reality*, *Enigmas*, *Fortean Times* went really big and so there was at one point, between 96 and 98, when you had all these magazines on the stands.

Then the Birdsalls began having huge conferences up and down the country; they had one in Scotland, they had the Leeds one, they had one in Solihull in Birmingham every year, and they even had one in London. These events started attracting hundreds and hundreds of people. The one at Leeds used to get 900 people attending each day, Saturday and Sunday, which is unheard of, and it brought a lot more people into the subject who were doing in-depth research. All this was a few years ago and even though I had been doing a lot of research with the Freedom Of Information act, it was around about this time that I began to meet people like Matthew Bevan and Matthew Williams.

And although we were all involved in very different things, we were all proactive researchers travelling around the country, knocking on people's doors, doing things unconventionally. And I think this collective atmosphere of how the UFO subject started to change, and this fear that was related to the Bevan affair did cause the authorities to take note and realise that there were all these people wandering around at military bases taking photographs and hacking computers, and God knows what else. They wondered if it was a team that had been recruited or was it just bloody stupid UFO researchers recklessly climbing fences, as the government perceived it, and banging on people's doors and standing outside military bases, taking down the number plates of people's cars, which was exactly what was going on.

But you could well understand why government agencies would think that something else was happening and that's when the major surveillance in the 90s really took off. During those five years in England, it was like the folk music era of the UFO research community had been overtaken by the punk rockers.

SM: Matthew Williams. Now, what he did at Monk's Park.....



Matthew Williams

NR: Matthew is a good friend of mine and I have known him for years. I think I first met Matthew at the Birdsalls conference in Solihull which was either early 95 or early 96, so I've known him for at least a decade. Coincidentally, Matthew was also well acquainted with Matthew Bevan and it was Matthew Williams that introduced me to Matthew Bevan. I drove down to Cardiff and spent a day with them just chatting and hanging out. What a lot of people don't know about Matthew Williams is that he actually has a background in the British government himself. He used to work for the British government's Customs and Excise, first in the personnel division and then later in the criminal investigation Department. His primary interest in the subject was, and I guess still is, Rudloe Manor in Wiltshire which, for the people who aren't aware, is a base that had been linked with clandestine and top-secret UFO research for years, particularly via one organisation that was based there are a couple of decades called the Provost and Security Services. Incidentally, throughout the book, I relate various officially released documents that show how Provost and Security personnel had actually travelled around the country interviewing witnesses, members of the public, witnesses to UFO encounters, and I wouldn't be surprised if some of those Men in Black reports don't originate with the Provost and Security Services.

SM: Out of interest, do you know where the P&SS have moved to now?

NR: They were originally at Acton and then they moved to Rudloe. I've got the details somewhere and I can easily dig them out for you, but they moved from Rudloe in 98. There are a couple of cases in the book that I relate where the P.P.S. went out to interview a woman in Shrewsbury who had seen this UFO while she was driving home late at night. It had been claimed that the P.P.S. just collected reports and sent them through to the MoD and that Rudloe Manor was just a post box until you find these declassified files showing that their agents were running around the country like headless chickens interviewing members of the public about things they had seen.

Tim Good originally wrote about Rudloe in his book *Above Top Secret* and later in his 1991 book *Alien Liaison*. It was round about '91 that I started digging deeper into the files at the public record office or the National Archives as it's now called at Kew, just outside London. Several of those files included P.P.S. investigation reports and I copied them and sent them to the P.P.S. services director and said, "You've been saying for years that you don't investigate these things; what about this?" The response I got was, "Well, this was just a one-off, we don't really do it, this was just one of those occasions when we did".

SM: It was a bit ironic how the bloke that wrote back to you described the whole thing. Was it classified as a low flight thing?

NR: What's interesting about that was that Tim Good's sources told him years ago that the P.P.S. investigated UFOs under cover of low flight complaints to hide what they were doing. The director of the P.P.S. said to me, "Well, this is an example of a UFO case being investigated as a low flight complaint".

SM: That is a bit ironic.

NR: What happened was, all of these stories were floating around about RAF Rudloe Manor in Wiltshire, and what is interesting about the place is the area in which it is built. That area in Wiltshire was actually very, very heavily quarried for something that is known as Bath stone, which was used to construct the city of Bath, so what you had were these huge mined out quarries and caverns and caves all under this one area in Wiltshire which, during the war years, were used as a munitions storage etc.

And then at the height of the Cold War, it was realised that in the event of a nuclear attack by the Russians that this could be used as an emergency management area. And actually there is one part of Wiltshire, not far from Rudloe, the Defence Communications Network, which can actually hold thousands and thousands of personnel in the event that there is a national emergency. So you have all these various military bodies in the area; Monks Park which was a military body and also partly a working quarry at one point, and then became a privately owned area which still had links with the defence community, you had the Defence Communications Network, the Corsham computer centre all interlinked, all doing government research and work. Some were actually military bodies themselves and all interlinked with these caverns and tunnels and caves.

Inevitably, because of the UFO research that was going on at Rudloe Manor, stories began to circulate that underneath Rudloe there was like a British equivalent of Hangar 18 where there was supposed to be alien bodies and crashed UFO stored. Matthew Williams got very interested in these accounts and in the same way that Matthew Bevan hacked into computers, Matthew Williams hacked into Rudloe by quite literally jumping fences and taking photographs and just wandering around the place collecting as much data as he could, tracking down people who worked at the base, openly inviting people through his magazine called *Truth Seekers* who worked there to come forward and tell him what they knew about UFOs at Rudloe, and he was a very proactive figure in the Rudloe investigation from roundabout 94, which I think was about the first time he went down, through to 98.

A classic example of this was when myself and Matthew appeared on a BBC TV show in 96 called *Out of This World* which was presented by Chris Choi, who's quite a well-known BBC presenter. We actually got permission to film in the vaults of the National Archives and I talked about the P.P.S. files that had been released, and then they travelled to Rudloe with Matthew and drove around the

base and strolled up to the security guards entrance. The guard asked for some ID and Chris Choi didn't have any and Matthew had got his credit card; that was all he got and when he gave it to the security guard, the man looked at it and said, "Yes, I know who you are".

So Matthew was quite well-known and had been stopped at the base on several occasions.

SM: You forgot to put a bit in there Nick. The bloke said, "We knew you were coming, we just wish you had told us exactly when".

NR: That is very, very weird and again suggests some sort of surveillance. On the same subject, Jonathan Dillon, a journalist who I used to speak to quite regularly in the 90s, had heard stories coming out of Rudloe that there were personnel who were involved in these UFO investigations and that they monitored people in the air force who had offbeat hobbies, which included UFOs. Again, that wouldn't surprise me and you can well imagine that anyone who was bucking the system would be likely to be watched.

Matthew would go down there and take pictures and he once even hired aircraft to fly over the base. I remember that in 96 at Solihull, Matthew gave me copies of all his photographs, about a hundred of them, where he had swooped down low in an aircraft and taken them.

SM: The sheer guts and bravery.....

NR: A lot of the old guard don't want to know this but, regardless of whether they think that is right or wrong, that gets results. People are going to say that it is totally idiotic to fly over a military base and take photographs, and in today's climate, it's likely to get you shot down. But in the leafy, green pastures of old England 12 years ago, then it was just kind of seen as "One of those UFO people". That is how it was looked at. In that respect, Matthew achieved results. People may not have liked his methods.....

SM: How can a serious ufologist seriously turn around and say that Matthew Williams was wrong? What do they think is going to happen when somebody shoves it in the governments face, like he did—what's going to happen? Is ufology going to come to an end? Or is it a case of his actions affect the "reputation" of ufology?

NR: I don't care much about reputations. That's never been important to me. My outlook on life has always been, do what you want to do because you are a long time dead, and I don't really care what people think of me or what I do or how I go about doing things. I am not answerable to anyone. I don't like taking orders and being told what to do. Again, that probably goes back to being brought up in the punk year are when I had black hair, red hair, or any hair at all! I have no problem with governments per se but governments inevitably become corrupt, and I don't like corruption in government. I don't like the double standard of "Do as I say, not do as I do" and when I see that happening I do my utmost to stop it because I think it's wrong. And I think ideally, we would have a perfect government but I don't look at things through rose tinted glasses and I don't think we do have a perfect world and we never will.

All each of us can do is to try and make it better, and when it comes to UFOs, there are a lot of people who think you can only be a UFO research if you've got a PhD or something like that, or that you went to this university or that one. I don't claim to have uncovered the entire secrets of the UFO world but I never

went to university or did any of that. I'd like to think I've contributed at least something to the subject.....

SM: Oh I think just a little, yes.

NR:as much as someone else who has spent years waffling on about how long they spent working in the CIA or whatever.

My view has always been that when you're looking at a subject liked UFO's, you should get out there, do the research and don't care what people think, and get results and that's what Matthew did and what he is still doing. He went out there to look into the Rudloe story and hit a brick wall because no one was talking about it apart from one or two whistleblowers who did actually come to him. One told him of a conversation he had had with their superior of whom he had inquired about the UFO subject. His superior had replied that he could tell him all about it or, he could keep his job.

SM: I would have given up the job actually.

NR: He did get a few whistleblowers like that approach him and the information did pan out as being genuine, but for the most part, like all of us, when you try and delve beneath the official shop window of what they are willing to admit about UFOs, you do get this brick wall and Matthew, when he was facing this brick wall, literally, and I do mean literally decided to jump over it. He openly went to various military bases and tried to get into them.

SM: You said a moment ago that he was fascinated by Rudloe Manor, which is obvious, but that he still is. Is that the case?

NR: I don't think he does things at a proactive level any more, in fact I know he doesn't, but he is still interested and if somebody gives him information, he'll dig into it.

SM: But is he still interested in Rudloe since the P.P.S. moved away?

NR: I'm not sure about that. If you dig into the rumours about Rudloe deeply enough, you will see that there were two things going on. You had the P&SS who were based there from 77 to 98 and the story was that the P&SS were doing the investigations and that wherever the P.P.S. are based is where they do those investigations. So when they left Rudloe, the investigations went away.

But, you had this other story about how bodies etc were stored under Rudloe because it was an ideal location because of the deep, underground caverns. So even though the P.P.S. have gone, if there is a grain of truth to these crashed UFO stories, then arguably they could still be stored and contained at Rudloe because that was kind of separate to the investigations.

SM: He doesn't seem to put his head above the parapet very much anymore.

NR: He's primarily interested now in the crop circle issue and as far as his whole involvement in the subject of UFOs are concerned, that was at its height between about 94 to 99. Then he got more involved in crop circles and I think that if anything still comes his way on Rudloe, he takes an interest and I think he still takes people around the area, showing them around.

The thing that got him really noticed was that firstly he was friends with Matthew Bevan. He was also friends with another mutual friend of mine called Chris

Fowler. Chris was actually the first person to ever get the MoD in November '95 to admit that Rudloe had served as the entire coordination point for all UFO reports for the British Royal air force.

SM: That was Fatty Soames that had to stand up in Parliament to answer that question.

NR: Chris actually got an acknowledgement from Kerry Philpott, one of Nick Pope's successors in the MoD that yes; Rudloe had acted as this coordination point. The MoD said that military bases would receive reports and didn't know what to do with them so they would send them all to Rudloe. Rudloe would put them in a big envelope and send them to Secretariat Air Staff 2A at Whitehall.

But that isn't what happened because, the problem is that no employee, like Nick Pope, ever saw an envelope arrive from Rudloe stuffed full of UFO reports. Nick Pope openly told me that he thought the stories about Rudloe were like fables if you like mythology. He thought that somebody phoned Rudloe and said, "I've got a UFO report" and then they would send it to the MoD.

Then the story spiralled out that Rudloe was doing the investigations, but he never saw anything come in from them and they were just coming in from wherever, from members of the public or the police.

Rudloe's argument and the post Nick Pope era argument from the MoD was that Rudloe was the coordination point from where all the reports would be sent to the MoD. So if that was the case, why didn't they come through to that office under cover of a letter heading from Rudloe? The fact is they didn't and we know they didn't because nobody prior to Kerry Philpott making this statement knew anything about it.

SM: Maybe they did but they would just send them in covertly as if coming in from members of the public.

NR: No records from the British Royal Air Force have ever surfaced saying that in the event of a UFO encounter, you will forward all your reports to RAF Rudloe Manor where they will be forwarded to Whitehall. If you look at the official reports that are now available at the National Archives, it says "Send reports to this particular address".

A classic example is if you look at the 63, 64 and indeed the 50s files. It says that members of the public reports should be sent to S6 or S4 as the old divisions were called, and reports from the military should be sent to the Defence Intelligence Staff.

SM: In that case Nick, how did Rudloe Manor get hold of UFO reports?

NR: What I actually think happened is that the ones that they got to see were the ones that were fairly innocuous. Yes, there were some military reports and yes, members of the public wrote to the MoD because people learned after a while that that was where they were supposed to go. But what you actually find was that the P.P.S. were investigating more significant reports and it wasn't the case that they went from the MoD back to Rudloe. I think these were independent investigations that the P.P.S. were looking at themselves and they chose in some cases to send material to the MoD but they were doing their own independent studies of UFO sightings in Britain, independent to those that were going on in the small office in which Nick Pope worked in. Nick Pope, by his own

admission, never left the MoD to investigate a case. He was never given the budget for a train fare.

SM: Do you think it's possible that the P&SS were looking at service reports of UFOs?

NR: Yes, and I think what's interesting is that in the investigative P&SS cases that I have found, two of them involve young women, two of them involve vehicle interference cases and as I point out, these are classic aspects of many abduction accounts; young women or people driving along in their cars late at night, their engines stall, hidden memories, and so on. One of those reports actually talks about a Mr Griffin who supposedly made contact with the occupants of the UFO.

I actually think this could be an example of who some of these MIB type characters in Britain are that have monitored certain people in the abduction community because there do seem to be recorded examples of late-night UFO encounters on lonely roads where things have happened.

And the fact that 40 years ago, the P&SS had budgets to go out and speak to these people and interview them and to go back for repeated visits to ask all sorts of questions, did the object move, what it looked like, was there any pain, what happened to your headlights, did your engine go out? Things like that, when you collectively put that material together, that does sound like somebody was running a UFO project, you know what I mean? Whether officially or unofficially, somebody was fishing for information on weird UFO encounters.

Because the P&SS got the more significant cases, they had a better grasp of what was going on and I think that is why there is this differentiation between the two, and I think that was something Matthew realised. You had this little office in Whitehall, this quaint little office with its filing cabinets and where the staff are rotated every so often but then you had this other department that had access to very, very high-powered radar and sophisticated systems, and the whole area was interlinked with other secret military organisations. It was the one place where the personnel had access to everything they would need to track unidentified things in British airspace.

If, and it's a big "if" there is any UFO wreckage, it's also the ideal place to store it hundreds of feet underground in that rabbit warren of caverns and caves.

SM: A few moments ago, you used the phrase "UFO project". That is a very sensitive phrase over here at the moment because it's the wording that Nick Pope keeps using, and he gets hammered a lot for it.

NR: When I used the term "UFO project", I cannot think for one moment that the reports that went to Secretariat 2A and the investigations that they initiated could in any way be classed as a project. A project sounds like an officially sanctioned study of UFO reports. That isn't what happened. The fact is that if no UFO reports are being sent to the Secretariat Air staff 2A, they wouldn't have been looking at UFO reports. They wouldn't have been going out looking for reports; they only investigated things that came to them. That's the difference I think between what was going on with them and with Rudloe. The P&SS, at some point in their history, realised that there was a UFO mystery and began investigating it officially.

SM: Do you think that is still going on, or do you think they have just given up and thought "There's sod all we can do about it".

NR: I think they still investigate things but they probably keep it to the point where it is just those cases that are of great significance and that actually might shed light on what's going on. I don't think that every single day there are covert P&SS personnel running around the country, investigating every light in the sky or even every UFO encounter. I think they probably keep close tabs on the subject and if there is something really significant then it is probably studied or looked at.

But that is very, very different from somebody at Secretariat Air Staff in Whitehall receiving a report from a Mr Smith in Norwich who said that two weeks ago last Sunday, when he was coming out of the *Rose and Crown* he saw a blue light in the sky. That is not a UFO project, with funding to look into what UFOs are. That's just dealing with an inquiry from a member of the public.

SM: I do want to state for the record, for the people reading this, that the chapter where you describe Matthew Williams and Richard Conway's descent into Monks Park is very graphic and vivid and does capture the excitement that one would expect to experience doing what they did.

NR: Monk's Park was a working quarry which was later leased to a company called Leafield that was involved with defence components for the defence industry. It was also at one point heavily connected with the Royal Navy. There were rumours which Matthew got hold of, some of which turned out to be genuine, that at one point, although I don't know that this is still the case, that some of the tunnels deep under Monks Park actually interconnected with Rudloe.

So if you couldn't get in at Rudloe, was it possible to break in at Monks Park? That was one of the things that Matthew had on his mind. It was in July of 1997 that Matthew and Richard Conway from BUFORA broke in to the facility at Monks Park and descended down into its depths, taking loads and loads of photographs, and they saw loads of defence related components down there and crates with official stamps on them, and things like that.

They were down there for hours and it became quite clear after a while that they had set off some alarms and they had to hide out in this bunker system.

SM: I just want to state to people that the book is worth buying just to read that chapter, because it really is a thrilling read.

NR: Actually most of that are Matthew's own words.

SM: I love the way he concludes that "that was an exciting day". A classic understatement.

NR: Matthew figured that Rudloe weren't saying anything and he wanted the answers so he decided he would get the answers himself. So they went into Monk's Park and got these various photographs and saw these different things going on. The next day I was coincidentally down in Wiltshire at that time, and this was another thing that was picked up by Special Branch – the fact that I was down in that area at the same time as Matthew and Richard were down there.

But what was happening was that every summer I used to go down to the crop circle region for like a month at a time. When I first left college, I worked on a rock music magazine for two years. I worked full-time until I was about 23 and then I decided, "Fuck this, I'm done with it". I cannot do this nine to five, driving to some job you hate, being told what to do by some boss all day existence and just got out of it into freelance writing from then on. That allowed me to lead a

life of travelling around the country and going to different areas. A lot of people don't know this but for five years, I literally just lived out of hotels and motels. I didn't have a permanent address; I just travelled the country, writing articles and lecturing and using that to fund petrol and over nights at Little Chefs. I loved it and it was a fun time just travelling around the country.

The day after Matthew and Richard broke into Monks Park and just about managed to escape by the skin of their teeth, after Matthew twisted his ankle and the pair of them got chased by a herd of cows as well as hearing gunshots, I ran into Matthew in, I think, Devizes and he gave me this package of photographs. He said, "Look at these" and when I asked what they were, he said, "We broke into Monks Park yesterday and these are the pictures". He told me the story about how the tunnels were interlinked and that the goal was to get into the Rudloe tunnels.

This was July 97 and the story was published in either August or at the very latest, September in *Alien Encounter* magazine about how they had broken in and a lot of the pictures were reproduced. Bear in mind that *Alien Encounters*, at the time, was a very big selling newsstand magazine on UFO's that was selling literally in the thousands. It had five figure sales and that magazine really did well for a while.

So, in the summer of 97, you had on the newsstands this magazine talking about these guys breaking into Monks Park looking for UFO secrets at Rudloe in the same timeframe that Matthew Bevan's computer hacking court case was going on, and the person who wrote the article for *Alien Encounters* was a friend of Matthew Bevan. Also, Matthew Williams was also friendly with Chris Fowler who had uncovered all the stuff about Rudloe's coordination UFO point. And, I was friends with all of them!

So you had Matthew Williams research coming to the fore and that spilled over into the next thing, which was Robin Cole. Well, Robin lived at the time, and still does, in Cheltenham. Cheltenham is the home to GCHQ, the government Communications headquarters which is the British equivalent of the National Security Agency, with which it works very, very closely. Because Robin lived close by and had a UFO interest, he began to delve into the issue of whether or not GCHQ had an involvement in the UFO subject. Bear in mind that we know that the NSA did and still does so it wouldn't make any sense for the British counterpart not be doing the same thing.

Matthew found out that GCHQ had been involved in various UFO incidents, like the P.P.S.— they didn't appear to be investigating everything that happened but if there was a significant UFO case where there appeared to be some crossover with what they were doing then they would have involvement in it.

Robin eventually put enough material together to write this self published report called *GCHQ and the UFO Cover-up*. It told the story of some of the things he had uncovered about GCHQ's involvement in a very controversial case that occurred in late 1996 where strange lights were seen over the Wash over the east coast of England by the crews of some ships out at sea, and where things were tracked on radar but were dismissed as a church spire.

So Robin wrote this report and it was profiled on British television on his local news. The following morning he got a phone call from what actually turned out to be Cheltenham Special Branch, asking if they could come round to speak to him as they had a few questions for him. As Robin said, it's not everyday that you wake up and get a phone call from Special Branch, wanting to speak to you.

Perhaps concerned, he didn't say no and invited them round. Fortunately, Robin had the foresight to actually set up a tape recorder and hid it in his living room so he could tape record the entire conversation, which he subsequently did.

Two guys came round from Cheltenham Special Branch and asked him questions about why he was looking into GCHQ, what his interest in the UFO subject was, why he was interested in what they called "the phenomena!", and what his involvement in the subject was. Basically, what he was up to and what he was doing. And he told them, "I run this UFO group in Cheltenham and I have been looking into the UFO angle at GCHQ and have published this report". Then they said that they also wanted to ask him about what he knew about a group called *Truth Seeker's*. That of course was the magazine put out by Matthew Williams. Robin discussed with the Special Branch people what Matthew had done, and bear in mind that this was just after Matthew's activities at Monks Park, so it was quite clear that that was the thing that took the surveillance of Matthew Williams to another level.

When the Special Branch had gone, Robin called Matthew and told him that he thought he had dropped him in the shit. Matthew responded, "Well, I don't know why they are calling on you because when I have been stopped before at Rudloe by the MoD police, I have always had something like a credit card with me and shown them that". Incidentally, that is something that always amazes people over in the States when I tell them that you don't have to walk around in England with your driving licence and a photograph. I don't think I'd ever had any ID until I came to America.

SM: But you know they're trying to do that here.

NR: Oh yeah.

SM: And struggling badly.

NR: And they will just use the terrorist problem as the excuse to force it through.

SM: Well, there is a lot of opposition and the Lords are sticking the boot in as well. Expert after expert is telling the government that it is a fruitless waste of money.

NR: That's the next thing I would probably get involved in, finding ways to stop that. Speed cameras as well, that's another area that I have a big issue with.

SM: Just to partly interrupt the Robin Cole story, I do want to mention that the authorities in the end did manage to nail Matthew Williams. He must have been probably the most intensely watched ufologist in Great Britain, I would have thought, particularly after Monks Park when it really stepped up, but they did manage to nail him in the courts.

NR: What happened was, Robin began to wonder why they were asking him about Matthew. He then reasoned that their question was probably partly to check him out as well, to see whether he had any anarchist stickers on his door, and things like that, which he didn't. But it was kind of like killing two birds with one stone – check out Robin on the pretext of asking him whether he knew anything about Matthew.

Then there were other occasions where Robin had noticed that things had gone missing from his flat as he was putting together the full report on GCHQ. Copies of pictures had gone missing, there was a van parked outside his house that was

traced back to an MoD office in Wiltshire, which happens to be the home of Rudloe Manor. Just after October 97, when my book *Covert Agenda* was released, I had a similar visit which I have never talked about until this book came out, and the main reason why I haven't other than to one or two people like Matthew was because I didn't know where it was all going to lead and what the reasoning behind it was.

But what happened was, I got a call similar to the one that Robin got.....

SM: You didn't take it seriously at first.

NR: No I didn't. I thought it was a windup, just some mate in the subject having a laugh, but it turned out to be legitimate. I was interviewed for about 20 minutes by two representatives from Special Branch who asked me specific questions about the research I was doing at the time into Rudloe, my friendship with Matthew, what did I think Matthew's intentions were, and I told them straight; "He's a UFO researcher, as I am, and he uses proactive means that not everybody agrees with to get results. But he gets results."

Then they asked me if I thought he was doing anything else and I told them no because at that time, I genuinely didn't know what they meant. They then asked me if it was possible if some of the people in the subject were using their research as a cover for doing work for somebody else. Then I understood what they meant and said, "Of course he's not. Matthew is just this guy from Wales in the same way that I'm from England and we investigate things, but we don't necessarily just sit in front of the computer nicely asking the MoD to tell us it's most guarded UFO secrets". And that was literally it.

SM: I'd like to make the observation about the surveillance of you and Matthew Williams and others, that as you read what the Sandman says, there does appear to be an element of some slight affection directed towards you all. For example, he keeps referring to Matthew as Master Williams as if he is like some errant little schoolboy that pushed things a bit too far.

NR: I didn't include one statement that he made in the book but with hindsight, I probably should have done because English people would have understood it but Americans would have been completely baffled by it and if I had to explain it, it would have taken away the impact. But the Sandman actually said that we were all viewed as some kind of X Files version of the Secret Seven!

SM: But they took you seriously enough at the time.

NR: I agreed with him, apart from the dog! They regarded us as a pain in the neck and saw us and as X Files idiots that were costing the taxpayer money and getting the Americans all riled up, as Matthew Bevan was specifically. It was looked into legitimately to see if there was some sort of recruitment going on by foreign powers, but afterwards, it was, "Why don't these guys just go away".

SM: You must have just really wound them up.

NR: It was only because the government hadn't been honest in the first place. They were the ones that dug themselves into the shit by hiding it all.

So I had this interview which was almost identical to the one Robin had. What wasn't made clear in that interview but that was made clear in a later one was something involving Porton Down. Part of the whole thing with the surveillance, which I didn't know about during that interview but I did find out after *Cosmic*

Crashes came out, related to a fairly controversial story that surfaced in 96 from Tony Dodd about James Prescott, this source that added a new twist to the Berwyn Mountain story. As Andy Roberts has said, regardless of whether people agree with his theory or not, around about that time there was a lot of interest in so-called British Roswells and the Berwyn story was the one that really emerged during that period.

What happened was, in 1996, Tony Dodd, who then worked for *UFO Magazine* came out with a story that he had interviewed a former British army source to whom he gave the pseudonym James Prescott who said that he had been at the Berwyn Mountain crash site in 1974 and had seen alien bodies being removed and being taken to Porton Down, which was and is the British government's chemical and biological defence research establishment. There was also a lot of animal testing going on there as well as testing on humans.



Tony Dodd

So you had that strand surface from Tony Dodd in 1996. Matthew was living in Wales and he was also friendly with a North Wales researcher called Margaret Fry. Margaret agreed to take Matthew up to the Berwyn Mountain where all this did or didn't occur and so he took various pictures of the area, a very prolific photographer is Matthew, and he sent me copies.

Because he was relatively local, albeit in South Wales, this was a case that he could really get his teeth into. So he interviewed Tony Dodd and Margaret and various other people in 96 and 97, when this story was at its height. I interviewed Matthew about his research and investigations with Margaret and what Tony Dodd had told him etc. Matthew was also spending a lot of time investigating Rudloe and crop circles and Porton Down is right in the middle of crop circle country and it's also only a very short drive by car to Rudloe Manor.

So in that respect, Matthew was back and forth between the two locations which seemed to be tied to the story, Wales and Wiltshire. I was down there as well and so both of us were looking into the Porton story and the bright idea that I had was to get as close to the base as I could and to write down the number plates of all the people that were driving in the vicinity and to then take steps to try and track them down in order to interview them.

I also began trying to track down people who worked there in that period in 74 and I did that by predominantly focusing on newspapers from the Wiltshire area at the time that mentioned articles on Porton Down. I was looking for names mentioned in the articles.

SM: You must have got some very funny responses.



Porton

NR: Most of the responses were along the lines of "Sorry, I don't want to talk to you". One of two said, "Oh, I remember so and so worked there. I don't know where he lives now". If the person had a distinctive name, then potentially I could try and track them down, using some of these names searches on the Internet and things like that. Just punching into a search engine or using some of these census and population searches that you can get

online nowadays. It's now become quite easy. The only reason I was doing that was to try and find people who could validate the James Prescott's story, where ever it was going to lead, I just wanted to find out the truth.

So I was hanging around Porton taking photographs and writing registration plates down and so on. Matthew was wandering around the base and then popping back over to Rudloe and all this collectively was going on at the same time.

It was roundabout that time that I also interviewed Matthew Bevan, which is the interview that appeared in the book, so as you can see that interview was conducted eight years ago – that's how long ago I was researching some of the stuff that went into this book. Andy Roberts and Dave Clark can confirm to you though I was telling them seven years ago about this contact I had in Special Branch.

So although I have been in the last two years pulling all the pieces together and writing it, fragments and parts of the story actually go back years in terms of doing the interviews. Of the interview with Jenny Randles on Apen I did that nine years ago. That's how long all of this has been churning around.

But after *Cosmic Crashes* came out, I was contacted and subsequently interviewed by one of the two Special Branch guys who had originally come round. I was specifically asked if I were still friends with Matthew Williams and told them, "yes". The questions followed the usual pattern and it became quite clear that Special Branch had by then definitely made the link between me, the two Matthew's, Robin Cole, and Richard Conway, although I think Richard was more of a peripheral thing and was seen as someone that had just come along with Matthew.

The other big question, of course, that was asked was why was I outside Porton Down, writing down car registration numbers? I pointed out truthfully that this story had surfaced about alien bodies having been taken to this location and I wanted to speak to people who worked there or who had worked there to see if there was any truth to it or whether it was just a pile of garbage. I added that I didn't think I was committing any crime by going on the Internet and finding out where John Smith lived and then phoning him. If John Smith chose not to speak to me, then that is his business. They seemed happy with my answers.

Although it was obvious to many in Special Branch that all of us were only really interested in UFOs, because of the very sensitive nature of the establishments that we were interested in, there was a nagging doubt amongst some that maybe there was more to us than it seemed, which is why the investigation continued for some time. In particular, it continued for Matthew because he actually moved down to Wiltshire to live in 2000 and still does live in the heart of the county, in Devizes. That was seen as extremely suspicious because of course, down there, he was surrounded by Rudloe, Porton Down, GCHQ, and the whole crop circle thing – all things that he was investigating.

Then it got even weirder because, although Matthew had had a very big interest in crop circles for years, and his crop circle research had been running along in tandem with his interest in Rudloe, although not many people knew that, he eventually came to the conclusion that most of the circles and formations were made by people. He actually felt, and still does feel, that people who have made them, including himself, have been guided by some higher power to make these things and that they were like a medium that this intelligence was using. Matthew himself had lots of weird experiences in the fields including missing time,

glowing balls of light, seeing people coming out of them feeling rejuvenated and healed from illnesses like arthritis and similar things, as if even the human made ones were taking on weird properties.

A lot of this ties in tangentially with things like tulpas, the idea that a belief in



something causes it to be and that for example, constructing a circle invokes paranormal qualities. But, what was more important from the visual perspective was that the government had institutional memory of something that MI5 had been involved with in the Second World War, when strange formations had been found in fields predominately across southern England. These files have now been declassified and can be read at the National Archives at Kew.

Young master Williams

At the height of the Second World War, pilots flying over Europe had reported seeing these formations in fields. The intelligence services thought they were coded messages left by German spies for Nazi pilots. Then, when formations were found in England, there was the worry that there were German spies operating stealthily in England and that the markings were messages to bomb this city or that city.

So MI5 got involved in investigating these early crop formations, although the ones they identified all had prosaic explanation. But the important point was, MI5 had looked into these early formations, then they find out that Matthew had started to make crop circles only a stone's throw from some of these military installations that he had been breaking into and investigating, and so of course you can see the way their minds would naturally work. Was this something similar to what was going on in the war? It wasn't and it was just Matthew pursuing his crop circle leads in the area where crop circles were appearing.

Word got out that Matthew was saying that circles were made by people but a lot of people disagreed with him, so he decided to make one. So of course having announced it, it inevitably got back to the official world and he was arrested, charged, and convicted for causing criminal damage to a field in Wiltshire. All he had done was flattened corn and what a lot of people don't realise or necessarily know is that when you flatten corn to make a crop circle, you don't destroy the corn. It can still be harvested and it's only if you snap the corn and break it that it dies.

So he was convicted for making the circle and the police started muttering about whether he had made others as well and that maybe he had crop circle designs on his computer. So subsequently, the police computer crime unit, who were the same people that had arrested Matthew Bevan, also confiscated Matthew Williams' computer for a period of several months. The idea that the police computer crime unit would need to confiscate Matthew's hard drive for months just to find out what sort of crop circles he was making, was absurd. It was far more likely that they simply perceived it as a good opportunity to see what was on his computer and to see if there was anything to the stories about why we were all involved in doing these investigations.

Of course, again, nothing surfaced because it was a legitimate interest in the human angle to the crop circle mystery, and it still is. And that is actually his

main focus now, getting across to people the idea that yes, crop circles are real, but they are made by people. However it seems to be that the people are a medium that some higher force manipulates to get its message across.

Up until now, there have been theories and ideas about what UFOs are, with a lot of infighting in the subject, and there isn't really a common theme up until now. There's not really been anything that has unified us and I think that one thing we can get behind, as a collective community, is that we are a community and that we are being watched and have been watched, and I think that anyone who has had any involvement in the subject potentially could have been watched and may still be being watched at an official level, particularly more so given the current state that the world is in. So hopefully this may answer some of the questions as to why the government is interested in not just the subject, but us as well.

SM: You think people are still being watched today?

NR: I think to an extent, yes, but again I think it happens in specific cases, like for example Gary McKinnon. He was obviously being watched because he did something that provoked somebody to watch him, and I think that's probably what is more likely to happen today. I don't think there is an overwhelming surveillance of everybody but if there is a significant case and somebody starts digging into it, then maybe that person is watched if something has to be kept secret. I think the surveillance is probably provoked as a result of what we as a community do.



McKinnon

SM: You also write about the incident involving Jenny Randles.

NR: As I guess everybody reading the interview will know, in 1987 in Timothy Good's book the Eisenhower briefing document to the Truman memorandum - part of the MJ 12 document collection, surfaced, into the public domain at least.

They had originally been provided to Jamie Shanderra, a colleague of Bill Moore in 1984 and the two of them had looked into the documents and researched them but hadn't published them at all. It was only when they got public exposure through Tim Good's book that they were then also released by Moore and Shanderra in the United States. Moore had been working with various insiders going back to the late 70s and early 80s, round about the period when his book *The Roswell Incident* was released and was provided with these various documents that to this day still provoke controversy as to whether they are the real thing or some form of disinformation. What is less well-known is that late in 1986, Jenny Randles, the British author and investigator was also approached with an offer of documentation that sounded, and she described it to me, suspiciously like not just the Eisenhower briefing document but also the various appendices that are mentioned in that document that have never actually surfaced publicly.

This occurred in late 1986 and it was like a classic attempt to provide a UFO researcher with documentation in the same fashion that it was done with Bill Moore and some of these other earlier alleged attempts to "reveal the truth" to people like Linda Howe, Robert Emanager, Leonard Springfield; whistleblowers coming forward and offering them this and that. In Jenny's case, the story was

that this guy that she called Robert who had just got out of the British Army wanted to meet with her which he subsequently did, along with Peter Hough.

Robert's basic story was that when he was in the British army, he was approached by one of his superiors who began asking him questions about his opinions, if he had any, on UFOs and what he thought they were. His superior said things to him like "What would you say if I told you that we had tracked these things on radar or even that there are crashed UFOs and alien bodies?" Robert replied that he would need to see some sort of proof. The story that was given to Robert and was subsequently given to Jenny by him was that a contact in the United States had downloaded a whole range of 600 pages of classified files on crashed UFOs, alien bodies and alien autopsies, the usual thing, from the computer at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. He had printed them off and got them out of the country to Robert's superior and wanted to highlight them and get them out into the public domain.

Robert's superior asked him if he was the person that was up for the job of getting this material up to someone who could do something with it? He was provided with this documentation and split it up into various piles which he hid about his house. The documentation contained a history of the UFO subject, some of the more intriguing cases and references to a crashed UFO in New Mexico in 1947 in the desert which sounded very much like the Roswell story. There was a reference to an extensive autopsy report and Robert said it also contained some pictures which showed a 5 feet tall body, very human looking and not like a classic grey that you see in the books, which was laid out on a table. This was the basic scenario of the file and it did make it sound very much like the classic MJ12 documents.

Robert promised to make this material available to Jenny although he hadn't brought along any of it with him to the initial meeting. When a follow-up meeting was arranged, he didn't turn up. It would have been easy at that point to assume that the guy was just some Walter Mitty type fantasist but subsequent to the meeting however, he contacted Jenny again by letter and apologised for not turning up at the meeting with the documents. He told her that the military had come to his home and he had to turn the documentation over. Again, it could be argued that that was a get out clause, if you like, to avoid a meeting but in the intervening period between when Jenny and Peter had their first meeting with Robert, they actually did some background checks of their own and found out that he was indeed living in the area where he said he was living and that he had just got out of the British army. That part of the story did all actually check out.

Jenny now concludes that Robert was probably not the person orchestrating the whole saga and that he was as much a puppet on a string as the military hoped that she would ultimately be. She also concluded that because somebody else was going to provide this material to Robert that he was going to ultimately provide to her, that it appeared to be a carefully orchestrated plan that went off the rails when she herself began digging into Robert's background. When it became clear to these people that she wasn't just going to accept this material with open arms, and that she was doing some background research herself and was looking at it quite critically, then they got cold feet and backed away.

SM: Do you think it was obvious to them or became obvious to them that Jenny had checked out, was it his car registration number?

NR: Yes that's right. I think so. If you look at Robert's testimony, he said that the military knew that he had the meeting with Jenny in a local pub, so somebody was watching somebody, and I did suspect that in a scenario like this that if it

was an orchestrated scheme to put crashed UFO documents out into the public domain for some bizarre disinformation purpose, then you not going to just walk away at the last minute and hope it all works out fine. They are going to keep tabs on everything and watch what is going on.

What I found interesting, although I don't necessarily agree with the theory is that Jenny made a link with the approach of the documents to the Rendlesham story. Regardless of what we all individually think of the Rendlesham story, something did happen and in Jenny's book *Sky Crash* which came out in 1984 but which was actually updated and released shortly before she was approached by Robert, she included a whole new chapter on the theory or the idea that maybe Rendlesham had more to do with a military accident or a nuclear accident.

I don't personally agree with that theory, I think something genuinely unexplained happened at Rendlesham. However in saying that, if that theory had any validation to it or even perhaps if there were people on the inside who really didn't know what had happened at Rendlesham, they would nevertheless be concerned that some sort of nuclear story might be circulating. And also if you bear in mind the climate that existed in Britain at the time with the Cold War and CND, then you can well understand why someone might want to not only defuse the story but also the messenger.

As Jenny pointed out, if something more controversial did happen at Rendlesham, what better way to discredit Jenny then to feed her bogus crashed UFO documents which she would then parade in a magazine book after which somebody would stand up and say, "This material is bogus and this is how we know it is bogus", then that would have a knock-on effect of affecting her credibility in other areas, which might have been the intended desire all along.

But to her credit, Jenny didn't fall for it and began making her own checks to see if the material, the source, and everything else was legitimate or not. That is when the offer seemed to be withdrawn. If it wasn't the same documents, then they were very similar documents that then surfaced only literally months later, at the last minute, to Tim Good who put them in *Above Top Secret*.

So to me, looking at the way things have gone on in the last few years, I suspect that this was an attempt to feed Jenny with disinformation. Somebody had been watching what she had been saying and writing about and perhaps thought that she was on to some interesting material that they wanted keeping under wraps.

SM: A couple of points that arise from that. Firstly, there is an implied criticism of Tim Good in the sense that the material didn't come up to standard for Jenny but he just stuck it in.

NR: No it isn't, it is actually the opposite. The timing with Tim is actually very interesting. Tim's book actually came out in I think May 87 and the material was only supplied to him at the last minute.

The majority of his book was simply the examination of previously classified government files on UFOs from various countries around the world. And I am quite sure that if the material had been supplied to him 12 or 18 months prior to the publication of the book, then he would have been able to dig into it further and make a judgment as to its validity. So it was a case of, "Do I go with the documents or do I leave them out?" In Jenny's case, she wasn't planning to publish them right then so she had time to research it. Tim didn't even have time to really do that. I think the circumstances between the two approaches were slightly different.

SM: I do see what you mean, but the other point I want to make about that is this; assuming you are correct about what the intentions were in approaching Jenny, you then get Tim Good publishing the material, and there is no explosion afterwards. Nobody jumps on Tim's neck.

NR: I don't think the intent was to create an explosion. I think the intent was to keep the UFO research community investigating these particular areas, and that is precisely what happened. When the M J 12 documents surfaced publicly, pretty much the entire UFO research community was focusing on this. It was front-page news in all the magazines and journals. Grants were coming forward to UFO researchers like Stan Freidman from The Fund For UFO Research to do research into the documents. People were preparing reports, books were being written and it became the key thing within the UFO subject. I don't think there was ever any intent on the part of the military to stand up and say, "Hey, we got you! You are all idiots". What I think the intent really what's was to have people chasing the truth behind these documents and to steer them away from other things that they didn't want them looking into.

So in some respects, it works to the military's advantage to keep perpetuating the stories rather than to stand up and acknowledge that they faked the material.

SM: Given that this sort of approach has been very American in the past, do you presume that there is some sort of liaison between the higher echelons of American and British intelligence in this approach?

NR: It's interesting that one thing that was actually brought up by Robert Durant was the fact that a number of these approaches have occurred on British soil. One of the things that has been looked into has been the legal issue of classified material surfacing in either Britain or America. There was this approach made to Jenny, the approach to Tim Good, there was the alien autopsy film, all stories that were broken by British people in Britain.

If you look for example at the alien autopsy film, regardless of what it showed, Jenny had pointed out that Robert had described to her how the body looked in the photographs in the documents that he had and that when she saw the alien autopsy film, it was quite clear to her that this was chillingly similar to what Robert had described. It wasn't a little grey figure, it was a bulky 5 foot tall human looking being and that's exactly how Robert had described the being in the documents he saw.

SM: You say it was classified material but if it was, as we presume, all faked, then is it really classified?



Ray Santilli

NR: Well it could still be classified because if it is part of some secret operation to deceive people then it's not classified because of what it contained but it is classified because of what it is being used for.

So in Jenny's case there seems to have been collusion between the US military and the British to get this material to a British UFO researcher, possibly the same with Tim and

maybe the same with Ray Santilli. I don't for a minute think that Santilli was involved in any sort of hoax but equally, I don't believe this story that the

cameraman told Santilli that he just hung on to the film and was asked to give it up. That's bizarre and absurd. I think Santilli was as much a puppet in this scenario as some of the other people have been in being given this dangling carrot.

All of this seems to imply that there is some sort of linkage and collusion between America and Britain at an intelligence level in deceiving UFO researchers and a careful choice of potential subjects who might get the information out there for them for whatever purposes.

SM: You want to hazard a guess as to which UK intelligence department it might have been? The obvious candidate, the P.P.S.?

NR: That would be speculation on my part, I just don't know. What I would say is that if you look at the way this story has progressed, the one department that seems to be involved more than any other in this whole issue of disinformation and so-called military whistleblowers coming forward seems to be the Air Force Office of Special Investigations in the States. They seem to be big players in terms of coming forward and supplying documentation and whistleblowers, and that sort of thing. The British equivalent is the P&SS and it seems pretty much to be a sister organisation in that respect.

So that would be a logical suggestion, but I don't have proof of that and that is just my opinion. If you look at some of Bill Moore's people, some of those are heavily tied to the DIA, the Defence Intelligence Agency, the British equivalent if you like of the Defence Intelligence Staff of the MoD. So potentially you've got a tie in there as well, but Robert was with the British army and not with the air force. One of the interesting things that Jenny pointed out was that when she was approached with these documents, it was a little-known fact to the majority of the UFO community that at that time she was writing a book called *The UFO Conspiracy* which was published in 1987 and which, kind of like Tim Goods book, was a study of UFO secrecy.

So there is a possibility that if Jenny had included that material in her book and it was subsequently proven to be faked, then that would have affected her credibility. It's not entirely certain that the material that Tim received was exactly the same material offered to Jenny, or, if it was just similar material on crashed UFO's. That's one of those things that we're never going to have the answer to.

Other people will simply say that they were approached by legitimate people with legitimate documents. The problem is, until we get the full answers, we are never really going to know, but if you use commonsense and look at the bigger collective picture of UFO communities being watched and manipulated, it's largely been for reasons where a government has been concerned about its own activities or concerned about the intentions of the UFO researchers rather than actually hiding anything of an ET nature.

SM: Why the need to interrogate Robert for two days?

NR: Whether that actually occurred or was said for affect, I don't know. One of the things I have wondered about is; was it possible that Robert's source, his superior, wasn't part of an official operation and that this was an attempt, as far as he knew, to get the truth out. That is another way of looking at it and that Robert was interrogated because the military had found out.

SM: But isn't the story of how the senior officer came into possession of the documents just stretching things a little bit?

NR: The story was that the documents were downloaded from a computer at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, and not only that but that they were also printed out as opposed to being saved on a disk. Then they were smuggled out of Wright Patterson, then they were somehow transferred to the United Kingdom, all without discovery. That *is* stretching credibility and it makes it sound like the project was allowed to run. There are two ways of looking at it; either it was an officially sanctioned project, or somebody did illegally print this material off and it was noticed but because the information was essentially disinformation, it was decided to run with it and see where the trail took them. That might explain why Robert was interrogated, if it wasn't part of some officially sanctioned project. However, if it was, then it may just have been the case of them wanting to fully understand what he had said to Jenny and what she had said in return.

SM: Wasn't the manner in which Robert was selected by his senior officer slightly dodgy as well? He deliberately avoided anybody with any interest in UFOs.

NR: There is no doubt that Robert wasn't just chosen at random and that he was groomed to be the patsy if you like and to be the fall guy in this operation. My personal opinion is that it was an officially sanctioned operation and that the story of the documents having been stolen from Wright Patterson was untrue. And I feel fairly certain that the nature of his interrogation was along the lines of his questioners trying to sound out whether Robert thought that Jenny had fallen for it and was going to buy into it. Twenty years further on, I feel fairly sure that that is the scenario that occurred.

What I find most interesting about this story though is that Jenny published details of it in her book, *From Out of the Blue* and has mentioned it in various articles throughout the years. She has come to the same similar conclusions that I have; that it was a dangling carrot designed to affect her credibility and designed to push her down the ET path rather than something else. And yet the UFO research community for the most part ignores this story. It salivates over the MJ12 Eisenhower briefing documents still to this day, but this very similar approach to Jenny seems to have been glossed over and almost missed. I find it strange that nobody has picked up on the significance of the fact that it was in exactly the same time period as the approaches to Bill Moore etc.

SM: The Americans tend to think along American lines and don't really look beyond that.

NR: There is something to that. I just think that with a community that takes notice of what is being published and so forth, this is actually quite a major story within the history of the crashed UFO's/MJ12 documents controversy, and it's kind of been sidelined when in fact we could learn quite a lot from this particular saga.

SM: Jenny doesn't talk about it. She doesn't go on about it.

NR: She may not go on about it but in her book, *From Out of the Blue* which I think was published in 92, she talks about it quite extensively, and that book was published in the States. It may have been that the readership didn't want to agree with Jenny's conclusions and that it got swept under the rug. Nobody wanted to hear it.

SM: At least two of the Americans that were approached in this manner were compromised by the withdrawal of this material that was offered. In Emanager's case and with Linda Howe, they were both committed to TV documentaries and then couldn't follow through so were made to look professionally foolish, if not publicly foolish. I was going to ask in what way Jenny was compromised by the withdrawal of the information, but she wasn't.

NR: No, she wasn't. The thing to remember is that in the American cases, by and large the people on the receiving end have believed the people who have approached them, or at least accepted that what they were being told and what the documents said was the real story.

Although Jenny didn't believe that Robert himself was lying, she was very suspicious of the story, and I think that is the difference. If the intelligence services realise that they have got their hooks into someone who is going to accept that for the most part what they are being told is true, even if there is a little bit of disinformation in there, then there is no need to withdraw the project because the person is actually being deceived and being sent down the path that the Intel people want them to go down.

SM: You mention that the book that she was writing at the time was going to offer a more mundane but nevertheless menacing solution to Rendlesham.

NR: The hardback of her book *Sky Crash* was published in 1984. That gave all the information, which was limited, that was in the public domain then but in late 1986, the paperback came out. This had a completely new chapter in it which contained information suggesting that some sort of nuclear accident or maybe a satellite was responsible for Rendlesham. And it was after the publication of that paperback that Jenny was approached by Robert. Jenny suggested this connection to me; that somebody realised that whether or not it was true, she was talking about nuclear accidents on British soil. It was a secret at the time that Bentwaters had nuclear armaments, in violation of the arms treaty.

So you could well understand that that might cause someone friction within the official world and the decision to approach her was then made, perhaps not realising that Jenny was one of the people least likely to believe such tales.

SM: Do you think then that there is a chance that the authorities in Great Britain do actually know what happened at Rendlesham? Or did they just not like the talk about nuclear facilities?

NR: I think part of the secrecy surrounding Rendlesham stems from the fact that if people had dug into it to a deeper and deeper level, then they would have found out some of the secret things that were going on at the base, such as having a huge amount of nuclear weapons that actually weren't supposed to be there. I think that has something to do with it. I wouldn't actually fall down flat in a dead faint if it was proven that the British government really didn't know that much about what happened.

If you bear in mind that, although it was British soil, the key personnel involved were all US military personnel, and although, yes, the Halt memo went to the MoD, we know that because of the passage of time over Christmas, they didn't get it for a week or two afterwards. But in the intervening period, we hear tales of intelligence people coming to the base and military people being hypnotised or being given sodium penthatol, and of memories being confused.

I personally think there is a huge amount of material being held by the US intelligence community. Peter Robbins for example, has delved quite deeply into the NSA link to this story, which is something else again that no one has really investigated thoroughly. There is a good story there, so it is possible in my mind, and even probable perhaps, that whatever happened at Rendlesham began with the Americans and stayed with them, beyond a few token bits of material that was sent to the MoD.

It is difficult with some of these cases that if you are not there at the time investigating them, then it becomes like a challenge afterwards. I actually draw an analogy between the way that the British government investigated Rendlesham and of the way that British UFO researchers did – it was along the same lines in the sense that they tried to investigate the event after it had occurred and were left scratching their collective heads as to what happened, because the Americans weren't saying anything.



Peter Robbins

SM: Couldn't the Brits have demanded to know what happened, because it was on their soil? Wouldn't they have a right to be told?

NR: Yes, maybe they did. Maybe there are people at a deeper level that know. The files that have been declassified at least are interesting but they don't demonstrate that those departments knew that there was some huge secret and were demanding the answers. They were looking into it, radar tapes were checked and that sort of thing, but there is no evidence of the letters or exchanges saying that the British government knew what

happened and they wanted the truth from the Americans.

There was also the story that George Wild, a prison officer, told Graham Birdsall about how the nearby High Point prison was going to be evacuated, and that this story had come from the Governor and then Hill Norton asked questions.

SM: Was this a worry about possible nuclear fallout?

NR: That was the implication, that something had happened and that it sounded like some sort of contamination or something along those lines. Hill Norton asked questions about where the governor's log was and the governor's log could not be found, and so on. That would suggest that somebody in the British government knew more but whoever it was and whichever department it was, it doesn't seem to be in any way tied with the files that have been declassified on the case already.

SM: Probably the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries! It may sound funny, but you had a good contact in there! But at the same time, it seems an unlikely source for that sort of information.

NR: It was. That was one of the strange aspects to the story.

SM: You put into context I think, Nick Pope's situation quite well, because I've never read anywhere before what the MoD's attitude towards him was. He really was, and presumably still is, in a very difficult position.

NR: There is no doubt that in my mind that when Nick Pope's *Open Skies, Closed Minds* book came out, even though people were expecting it to be like an equivalent of Peter Wright's *Spycatcher*", namely some whistleblower blowing the lid, and even though it didn't turn out to be like that, I actually think what the book did do was to bring the media more into the subject and take notice of it. The book definitely did put the subject into the public eye and the media's eye at a far greater level during that period. I think, based on my conclusions, that there was this concern on the part of the government or the MoD specifically, that the book would make people think that there was this X Files type of project going on, which had a deeper level. I think there is with the PSS, and it might have opened doors and raised questions, even though those answers weren't contained in that book.

SM: But they actually had backup plans to compromise him if necessary.

NR: This is interesting. As I mentioned in the book, in 1998 the News of the World published a story saying that the MoD was going to declassify all of its UFO documents at the start of the following year. Everything was just going to be put into the public domain. If that was true, that would have been an amazing story. Now at the time, I was working full-time for a Solihull newspaper called *The Planet on Sunday*, which isn't where Clark Kent worked! This was a full-time gig I was working on back then and they wanted the story on it so I phoned up and said honestly that I was working full-time on a Sunday newspaper and could they tell me if there was any truth to this story? It was actually on a Sunday morning and the press officer said that there was absolutely no truth to the story and they weren't going to be releasing all their UFO documents and the only thing that was going to happen was what always happened; that every year documents surface under the 30 year ruling and appear on the shelves in the National Archives, or the PRO as it was at the time.



Nick Pope

So I asked where this story stemmed from and the reply was that I could get a good indication of its source because Nick Pope had a new book out to promote, called *Operation Thunder Child* which was his first novel on UFO's. Nick then put out a response saying that it had been mentioned in certain quarters that he had put out a story to promote his new book and that this was not true. Those "quarters" as Nick termed it were actually his colleagues at the MoD who were suggesting that he promoted bogus UFO stories to

promote his novel, which is bizarre. They inferred this to journalists on Sunday newspapers who were going to publish it.

I think its things like that that demonstrate that if you work in the official world and then you talk about it, then you come under the watchful eye. There is also one other thing I mention in the book that Nick told me which was that he had to be very careful about everything he said because his words were being watched, as he put it, by ufologists, the MoD, and a number of other agencies. And he never ever would elaborate on what he meant by "a number of other agencies", which is interesting.

Going along the lines of the subject matter of the book, it's another example of someone, having a deep involvement in the UFO subject, being watched by, in

their own words, "A number of other agencies". You can infer anything or nothing from that, or even something in between. We just don't know.

SM: I found your comments about Shayler and the fact that you were actually forced, or judging by the way you described it, were intimidated into handing over the original recording of the interview you did with him.

NR: Oh yeah, I was told that it had to be handed over. What happened was, in 2001, Mark Birdsall launched this magazine called *Eye Spy*. By then Mark was pretty much out of the UFO subject and he had a big interest in intelligence issues because he had done the *Unopened Files* magazine a few years before. So he launched *Eye Spy* which I worked on quite heavily for the first three issues but it was just after that then I moved to the States, although I still keep in touch with Mark and speak to him.

SM: It's still going, isn't it?

NR: Oh yes – it's up to about issue 35.

SM: So he must be doing all right with that.

NR: I think so. I did various articles for him and then he said that he had been speaking to David Shayler, this MI5 whistleblower (MI5 is the equivalent of the FBI). A book had been written about Shayler and his experiences within MI5 and Mark said that we had a chance to do an interview. We went down to London and went to Shayler's flat and interviewed him quite extensively. I remember the interview used the entire tape up, and then I re-read the Shayler book. Mark had to check in with the authorities that he wasn't going to publish anything that would contravene the Official Secrets act. They said you can talk about this and you can talk about that, but that we would want deleted, and so on so what I did was to go through the Shayler book and just focus on those things that he told us in the interview that he had also spoken about in the book. The thinking was that if the book was cleared, then the things that he spoke about in the interview that Mark published would also be cleared, and that is actually what happened, although there was one deletion which I think was just a very minor thing. So Mark called them before publication and it went ahead.



Shayler

The interview with Shayler was a lot more extensive, and I certainly didn't know what could be published or couldn't, although there were a lot of other things on the tape that to me did not have any particular significance. But shortly after publication, Mark was contacted by two people from the Metropolitan Police who travelled up to his home in Yorkshire. They told him that there was no problem with the interview but they wanted to review the tape to make sure that there was nothing else that was

going to be published from it that might cause difficulties afterwards.

Because I had done the transcript and then gone off to the States, Mark contacted me and told me about the visit and that the British police were going to be in touch with me. They repeated to me that they were happy with the published interview but that they needed the tape and it was made clear to me

that I would have to hand it over because there was no way that there weren't things mentioned in the conversation that would have contravened this act or that act. I think I sent it to Mark and he sent it on to them, I think that's what happened but I'm not a hundred percent about it.

SM: They threatened you?

NR: No, it wasn't a threat; it was just made clear to me that because of information likely to be on the tape, I had to hand it over.

SM: Were you tempted at all to say no?

NR: I wanted to know what the legal situation was, and asked them. I wanted to understand why I was being forced to hand the tape over and that's when it was explained to me. It wasn't a case of them saying "Send us the tape" and me saying, "Okay. Bye". They said "You will send the tape" and then it was a case of me asking, "Well why do I need to give you the tape?" We had that conversation.

SM: I do understand but it makes it sound like you were backed up against a wall and that you were going to hand it over whether you wanted to or not.

NR: To an extent, I was because they were saying I was in possession of a tape that might contain material that might contravene the Official Secrets act.

SM: At the conclusion of the Sandman's testimony in the book, he paints a very negative picture of the UFOs scene currently.

NR: I don't think it's a negative picture. What it is, as he correctly points out, is that although there is a UFO scene in the UK today, the scene that concerned and worried the government in the 90s doesn't exist any more. You have a lot of good people doing research and going to archives, tracking down retired military people, doing statistical investigations, sky watching, that sort of thing but what you don't have is the troublemaker angle in the subject any more, which is what directly led to the surveillance. I think that is the point, as I see it, that he was trying to make. The scene has kind of gone back to how it was before the explosion in the mid-90s. That era has now gone and the era of the people that came up with it has also gone. I'm on the other side of the world, Matthew is into crop circles, Matthew Bevan does legal computer work now.

So I don't think he is painting a negative picture, he's just painting a picture of how things have changed from how they were when Special Branch and everybody else was watching the subject.

SM: What was your motivation in writing the book?

NR: As I mentioned, there are a lot of divisions within the UFO community but we should also remember that we are a community and that surveillance of our community is one thing that unites us all, and that we should get behind it and uncover it.

But I think also, beyond just the UFO subject, that nobody should just listen to what governments have to say and accept what but they are told, just because we're told it. I think that the reason why people like Matthew and me were put under surveillance was purely because we asked questions, and awkward questions when governments did things that we didn't like. And I think regardless of whether it's UFOs or whatever the subject, people need to stand up and not be afraid of government and question them when they do things that we

perceive as being wrong. They are in the position they are in because we put them there. This has graver implications than just UFOs. It has more to do with people standing up for their rights and making sure that the world doesn't become some sort of slave surveillance state, which 20 years ago people might have laughed at. Who knows what the world will be like in 20 years from now unless people have their own input into the way it is going.

SM: Nick, thanks.



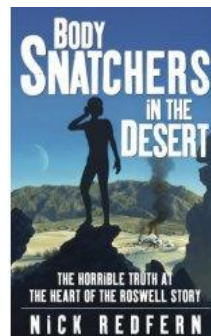
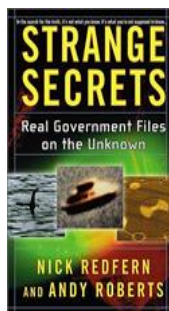
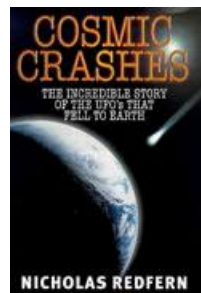
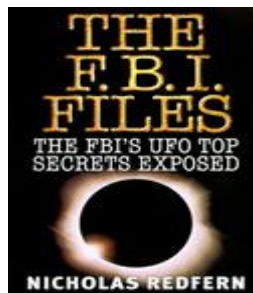
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Separated at Birth

An utterly scurrilous montage put together for us by our dear friend and soon to be married **Chris Parr**

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



Alien Autopsy



The only gay in the village



Wet poodle



Just plain wet



Mr Burns yes man



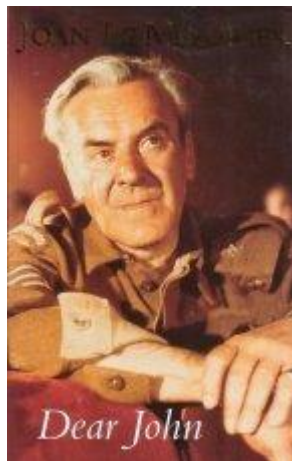
MOD yes man



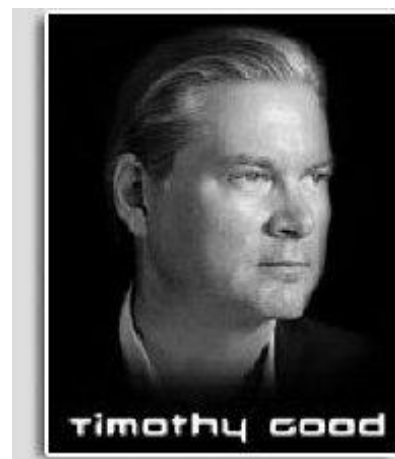
Ufology entertainer



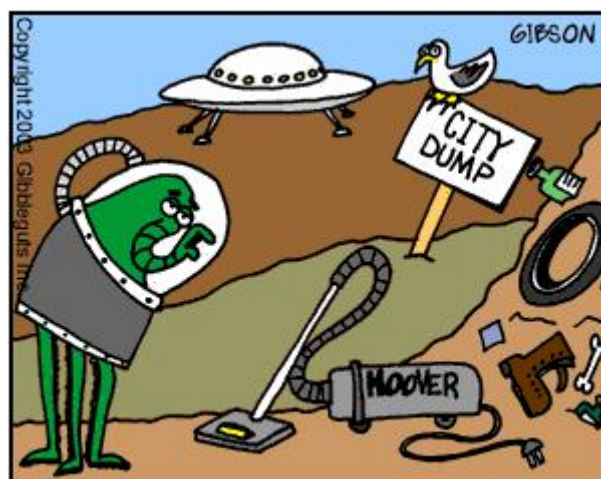
Children's entertainer



Awfully nice chap



Awfully nice Ufologist



What's a hot babe like you doin' in a dump like this?

More Strange Stones

By

Kithra

While researching my recent article about "Spheres, Stones and Skulls," I came across references to some other very strange stones. Throughout the centuries it seems that black stones, most of which appear to have been meteoric in origin, have been very highly revered.

Nicholas Roerich (1874-1947) was a Russian artist, poet, writer, explorer, and mystic. Having spent some time in America he eventually went to live in India, and finally settled in a Himalaya mountain village. However, he also travelled back and forth to the USA, and in 1935 he was instrumental in establishing what is known as The Roerich Pact, signed in the White House by members of the Pan American Union. It is a treaty aimed at the protection of "Religion, Art and Science as aspects of Culture" during times of war, and it is still in force. He was also prominent in the administration of Roosevelt, and a key player in having the Great Seal of the USA placed on the dollar bill. You can find complete information about him at the "Nicholas Roerich Museum, New York" site, here: http://www.roerich.org/nr.html?mid=bio_rus



Nicholas Roerich

Picture Credit: <http://fusionanomaly.net/nicholasroerich.html>

During the 1920s Roerich led an expedition to Tibet. One of the reasons behind this journey may have been to return a stone, The Chintamani Stone, to the fabled city of Shambala. Legend has it that this stone may have been a piece of meteorite or Moldavite, and that it came from either the constellation of Orion, or that of Sirius. It is said that a fragment of this stone was sent out to help establish spiritual missions that were critical to the human race; and that the piece Roerich was taking back had been in the custody of the League of Nations.

At some point during his journey through the mountains he reported seeing a UFO, which he described as a flying disk before that term came into common parlance. The local guide who accompanied him maintained that the UFO had come from the city of Agartha – the ancient name for Shambala. And while Nicholas Roerich was willing to listen to stories of Shambala, and other mythical places, he was far more interested in the spiritual ideas that lay behind them.

It is only around 150 years since the idea of Shambala was first popularized by a French author; who's conception of it was, in essence, as a highly evolved land that was hidden beneath the earth somewhere in Asia. Of course, evidence for such a place has not yet been found. However, Roerich wasn't the only person to be associated with the story. There was also a man, called Ferdinand Ossendowski (1876-1945), who was a Polish scientist. He had lived in Russia, but had fled during the Revolution. He too was a great traveller and visited Mongolia, from whence he returned with stories of Shambala, although he referred to it as Agharta. He claimed to have heard these tales from a fellow Russian refugee, a priest named Tushegoun Lama, who also assert that he was a good friend of the Tibetan Dalai Lama. The outcome was that Ossendowski came to believe that it was all more than just a myth, and that some potent force really did exist in that region of the world.

You can read more about Shambala/Agartha, Nicholas Roerich's UFO sighting, and one way in which it might all be interpreted here:
http://www.newdawnmagazine.com/articles/mystery_of_shambhala_part_one.html

In an article entitled: "Is Our Earth Hollow? - A Hypothetical Dissertation (part 3)" it is alleged that ancient Asian records say that the Chintamani Stone had been given to the Emperor of Atlantis, Tazlavoo, by an angelic envoy from the skies. And, that it was given to King Solomon by way of a Vimana airship from Tibet. The article adds that the stone had magical properties, and that it was thought to be made from a magnetic meteoritic Moldavite crystal. The whole of the article can be read here:
http://www.ufoarea.com/hollow_earth_forster3.html

Unfortunately, there seems to be a darker side to the myth of Shambala. In an article by Alexander Berzin he states that: *"Many foreign myths have grown around the legend of Shambhala found in the Kalachakra literature. Some were spread to win military or political support, such as the identification of Russia, Mongolia, or Japan as Shambhala. Others appeared within occult movements and mixed Buddhist ideas with concepts from other systems of belief. Several even spawned expeditions to find the fabled land."* And concludes by saying that Nicholas Roerich implied that there was a resemblance between Shambala and Thule – another hidden land. This time Thule is supposed to be somewhere beneath the North Pole, and its purported existence was connected to the Nazi idea of such a secret place. But Roerich never made a connection between Thule and the Nazis. You can read what else Berzin has to say here:
http://www.berzinarchives.com/kalachakra/mistaken_foreign_myths_shambhala.html

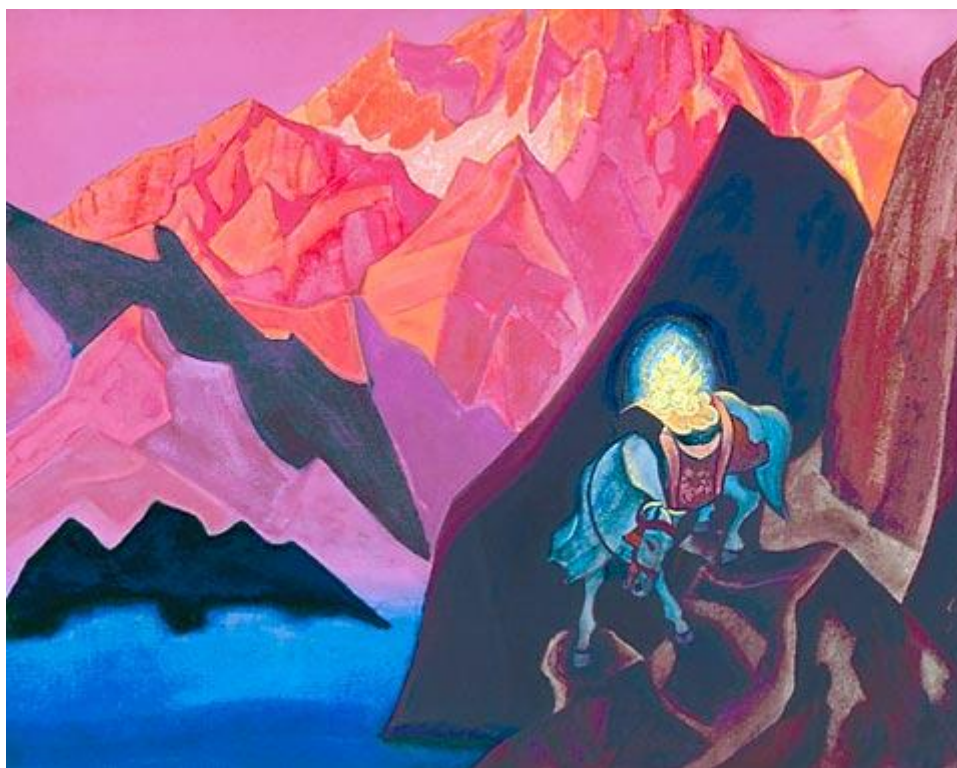
And, at the following site there is an article by Joseph George Caldwell entitled: "On Edward Bulwer-Lytton: Agharta, Shambhala, Vril and the Occult Roots of Nazi Power" that makes interesting reading.

This article also addresses The Shaver Mystery. He was the gentleman who contributed articles to the Amazing Stories science-fiction magazine from the middle of the 1940s. One such story told of an underground world, and introduced us to: *"deranged robots" or "Deros." He knew from experience of their machinations, of the efforts by another underground race, the "Teros," to counteract them, and much more that inevitably included sex and violence – necessary ingredients in any pulp magazine. "*

As most Ufologists will recall, Ray Palmer was the magazine's editor, and he: *"discovered Oahspe, the "New Bible" revealed to John Ballou Newbrough in*

1881." This was a parallel story to that of Shaver's, except that Palmer told his story from an occult viewpoint. The whole Caldwell article can be found here:
<http://www.foundationwebsite.org/OnBulwerLytton.htm>

Nicholas Roerich always travelled with his wife Helena. She too was extremely talented, and she wrote a book called: "Legend of the Stone." In this work she gives the reasons behind her husband's painting entitled: "Chintamani." And this next site tells us that: *"For part of his travels Roerich was accompanied by his wife Helena. Together they travelled in a pony caravan from Darjeeling in India across the Himalayas to the Gobi desert. This arduous journey was later immortalised by Roerich in a painting entitled Chintamani, depicting the pony caravan in a deep mountain gorge. Especially interesting is the strange load carried by one of the donkeys. This shows a glowing radiance of colour emanating from a simple box kept under constant guard by the Tibetan bearers. In her book Legend of the Stone wife Helena outlines the inspiration behind this scene. Referring to a passage from the Book of Lun she quotes: "When the Son of the Sun descended upon the Earth to teach Mankind, there fell from the skies a shield which bore the power of the world." Some believe this "shield" was a piece of meteorite or perhaps some strange artifact of extraterrestrial origin. Either way, incredible powers were attributed to it. Its rays were thought capable of influencing events and happenings over the entire world. According to author Andrew Tomas: "The main mass of the stone is kept on a tower in the city of the Starborn - Shambhala in Central Asia.""* This reference can be found here:
<http://www.monkeysofedden.i8.com/custom2.html>



Roerich's painting entitled "Chintamani"

Picture Credit: http://www.frankperry.co.uk/images/Chintamani.___1936.jpg

Another piece of the same stone is professed by some to be that known as the Black Stone of the Kaaba, at Mecca. And here:
<http://www.crystalinks.com/blackstone.html>

You can read that:

"The Black Stone of the Ka'ba, a dark meteorite set in gold in the outer wall of Islam's holiest shrine, the Kaaba, in Mecca. Muslim sites make it clear that the Black Stone is not worshipped and not considered holy in itself. It's merely a much-loved marker, the official starting point of the walk around the Kaaba that forms the core of the holy pilgrimage called the hajj."

The stone itself is a Muslim object of veneration, built into the eastern wall of the Ka'bah (small shrine within the Great Mosque of Mecca) and probably dating from the pre-Islamic religion of the Arabs. It now consists of three large pieces and some fragments, surrounded by a stone ring and held together with a silver band. According to popular Islamic legend, the stone was given to Adam on his fall from paradise and was originally white but has become black by absorbing the sins of the thousands of pilgrims who have kissed and touched it."

On the same page (<http://www.crystalinks.com/blackstone.html>) of that site you can read of other curious black stones. These include Aphrodite, Cybele, Astarte, and Artemis. The last named was also known as Diana, and the oldest known sculpture of her was said to have been carved from a black meteorite. The article continues by adding that: *"..... on Cyprus is another highly venerated Islamic site - the third most important after Mecca and Medina - the Hala Sultan Tekke. This, too, has a black rock, said to have fallen as a meteorite as part of the tritholon over the shrine. The shrine is to a woman - the aunt and foster mother of Prophet Mohammed. Could this, like Mecca, have been originally a goddess shrine? Unfortunately no other clues are forthcoming.*

There allegedly is a Black Stone at Petra.

Numerous standing stones in the British Isles are reputed to have fallen from the stars. The now-lost Star Stone marked the meeting of Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire; an also-vanished stone at Grimston, Leicestershire, was also said to have such an origin."



The Kaaba Stone

Picture Credit: <http://www.salagram.net/kaba-stone.html>

Finally, on the subject of the Kaaba Stone it is interesting to note that: *"The Black Stone has just one legend, and it's a good one. It's said that when Abraham and Ishmael, patriarchs of the Arab people, were building the Kaaba, the stone was delivered to them by an angel from heaven. That story would suggest that the Black Stone is a meteorite, and indeed meteorites have been prized and revered by many different peoples around the world."* This reference can be found here: http://www.geocities.com/khola_mon/myth/Blackstone.html

There are, however, other curious Black Stones scattered across the globe, so here's a quick look at some of them.

Other Black Stones

As we've just seen mention of the island of Cyprus, in the same part of the world we can find the Canary Islands. Here, at Güímar, there are a series of six step pyramids that are all made from black volcanic stones. They were found during the 1990s and Thor Heyerdahl, of *Kontiki* fame, who spent a lifetime researching the cultural origins of ancient civilizations, made a study of them. He proposed that they had the same architectural characteristics as those found in Mesopotamia, Mexico, Peru, Polynesia, and Sicily. They had also been built according to the astronomical alignments of the winter and summer solstices. A few years' later archaeologists made excavations beneath Pyramid 1 and found a long cave containing artefacts from the Guanches era. They were the pre-Hispanic occupiers of the island, and date to a period between 680 and 1020 AD.



The Black Pyramids

Picture Credits: <http://www.abouttenerife.com/tenerife/pyramids.asp>

On the other side of the world, along the Hawkesbury River in Australia artefacts occasionally come to light. One of these was found near Richmond, and it was two large stone heads with carvings on them. They were identical to models of the sun god Mithra and the earth mother goddess Demeter. The Phoenicians worshiped these gods almost 3,000 years ago.



Carved Stone Head of Mithra

Picture Credit: <http://www.awarenessquest.com/research.htm>

At the same time, and in the same place, workmen unearthed a small black stone, 18 feet beneath the surface. This bore the Phoenician letters of the word "thuffi" – but we're not told if it's been translated.

From February this year (2005) comes a story of a "Mysterious City of Black Stone." It concerns what legend holds might be the ancient lost city of Kota Gelanggi in Malaya. Local villagers claim to have either seen the city itself, called Kota Batu Hitam (Black Stone Fort), or to have seen relics from it. The description of one artefact portrays it as being about 10 inches long, made from jade, and resembling part of a decorative table stand. Local tradition has it that strange things happen at the city, and one villager maintained that he not only accidentally came across the site, but remained there as a guest for a few days; adding that it was very well populated.

It seems that this city has been cited in various historical documents, and researchers have been trying to find it for a long time. However, another local villager also related that each time he went to the site the position of some of the stones had changed. You can read the report about it here:

http://www.ufoarea.com/aas_mysterious_city_black_stone.html

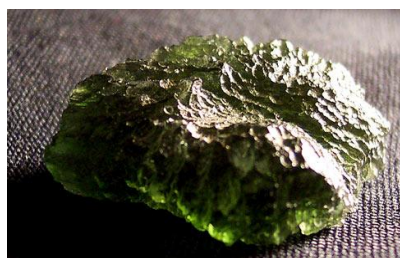
And lastly, to return to the beginning, I thought I'd see what science tells us about Moldavite. This belongs in the Tektite group, and is an unevenly shaped stone with no crystal structure. It's similar to Obsidian, but Moldavite has no connection to the volcanic process. Science still doesn't really understand Moldavite, and its chemistry is unique and, to some extent, unsolved. Currently it is thought to be the result of meteorite impact as Moldavite is often found in the areas surrounding meteor craters. Much is found in Moldavia, the country that used to be known as Czechoslovakia, but that deposit is believed to have come from a meteorite crater in Germany. It can also be found in Georgia, Australia, southeastern Asia, Thailand, and the USA.

Obsidian forms when volcanic lava mixes with water, resulting in a glassy consistency. It comes in numerous varieties and often contains air bubbles, which give rise to the different names for different types. But it, too, lacks any crystal structure, and is often confused with smoky quartz as they have similar properties. Large deposits can be found in Italy, Mexico, and Scotland; together with the American states of Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Texas, and Utah.

Moldavite and Obsidian references, including their physical characteristics, can be found here:

<http://mineral.galleries.com/minerals/mineralo/tektites/tektites.htm>

Comparison pictures of Moldavite and Obsidian:



Moldavite etching



Moldavite translucence



Obsidian nodules

Picture Credit (Moldavite):

<http://www.miqel.com/crystals-minerals-fossils-merkaba/crystals-minerals-merkaba/moldavite-information-images.html>

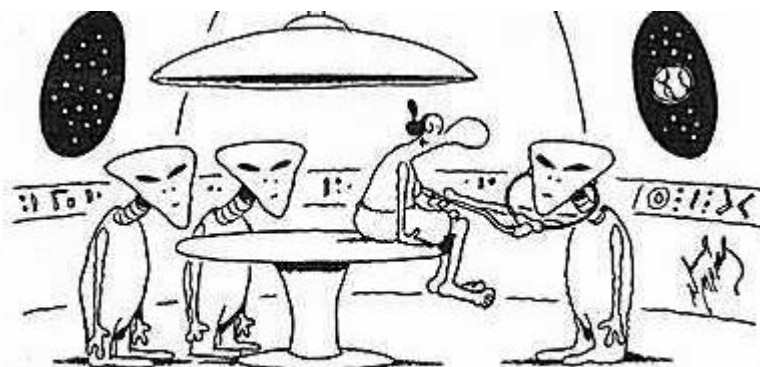
Picture Credit: (Obsidian):

<http://www.museum.state.il.us/pub/dmmweb/Images/Woodland/Obsidian%20noodles.jpg>

But, when we consider the ancient cults of sky/sun/moon/stars worship it isn't so strange that these civilizations should have venerated anything that fell from the sky. To the Ancients the origins of meteorites, Moldavite, etc: were unknown; but with modern eyes we can see how such objects came to be held in such high regard. As for those "angelic envoys," perhaps they were today's equivalent of aliens. Science has moved on, and we know how these rocks were formed, but even with our scientific and technological evolution I wonder what we'd truly think if a real 'nuts and bolts' UFO landed in Parliament Square, or on the White House lawn!!!

Kithra

<http://kithraskrystalkave.org.uk>



"A warm stethoscope? Wow! You guys really are advanced."



"Better check with your mother first."

WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT

UFO Review is proud to announce, in association with ***The Daily Spurt*** and ***Slightlydodgy Productions inc.*** the impending nuptials of Shaz and Cwis.



Shaz is a bit of alright. She is a dynamic ufological researcher from Cumbria who caught Graham Birdsall's eye in whenever and she has a keen interest in fridge magnets.

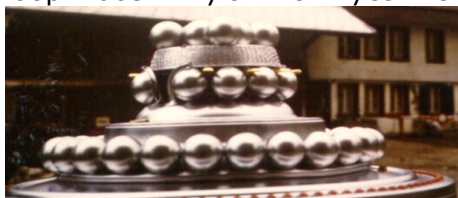


Cwis will go down in the anus of Ufological history as the man who discovered the mystery behind the Caldebeck story and without his dogged determination and skill, we would all be none the wiser

Service at 1:00pm at St. Catherines R.C. on Causeway, Carlisle, (just behind Mazour's chippy) on Saturday, November 3rd.



Reception to follow at 3:00pm at Jimmy's "Irish Eyes Are Smiling" private members club on Kingsway, Carlisle. Free bar.



Please note; as a result of the wedding, the usual Saturday programme at Jimmy's is cancelled. Members will be able to see the intended lecture by Professor Herri Bawls on "Dogging and the Delights of Sticking Your Member Through A Strangers Car Window" on the following weekend.

Owing to an exclusive agreement with ***The Daily Spurt***, we deeply regret that guests will not be permitted to bring cameras to either the wedding or the reception. Anyone found violating this request will be circumcised.

WARMINSTER

The Mystery Forgotten

If I were to ask you whether you remembered Warminster, there's a reasonable chance that you wouldn't know what I was talking about. There might be vague memories of lights in the sky and so on, but not a lot else. As is pointed out in the interview below with author **Steve Dewey** who along with **John Ries** has written a new book on the subject, Warminster quickly became forgotten and quickly became an embarrassment as well. And yet, the events that went on there make this town the centre of one of the biggest ever UFO flaps to have occurred within the UK. And not only that, the case had something for everyone from sceptic to sociologist to culturalist to Ufologist and so on.

I talked to Steve at the end of February 2006

SM: The principal points that both you and John Ries make about Warminster is how little publicity or acknowledgement Warminster now gets these days. You even describe it as "an embarrassment". I know it's a complicated question, but why do you think that is?

SD: People seemed to forget about it very quickly.

SM: You make the same point though about other examples like the Banbury flap.

SD: I would agree, but events like Banbury weren't as well-known. There are not many books that I've read that actually mention Banbury at all. It's surprising therefore that Warminster was so quickly dismissed afterwards, as it were, if you can put an end point on it, because it had been so huge at the time. From the mid-60s to the early 70s, it was pretty huge. John Cleary Baker and Gordon Creighton and Charles Bowen were all writing about it but then subsequent to that, you start reading other books say from the mid-70s onwards, and Warminster is immediately a joke. Everybody knows it's not real, everybody knows it was "invented" by Arthur Shuttlewood, everybody knows it was exaggerated and that there were hoaxes involved. Everybody knows this, everybody knows that. So from our point of view, looking back at it, it seems that people were very quickly able to make up their minds about that particular phenomenon because they had the one person in Arthur Shuttlewood on which to base their conclusions.



Arthur Shuttlewood

SM: Without any doubt at all, and you give ample testimony to this, there was never a question about the man's honesty, just a question mark about his journalistic descriptive powers coupled with his aura, for want of a better word, the combination of his voice and the way he spoke and so on. But certainly the number of sightings of the lights in the sky must have run into the hundreds.

SD: It ran into the thousands.

SM: Okay. Even if you take on board all the considerations that you brought up in the book, like the atmosphere on Cradle Hill for example, still, surely there must have been some genuine sightings in there.

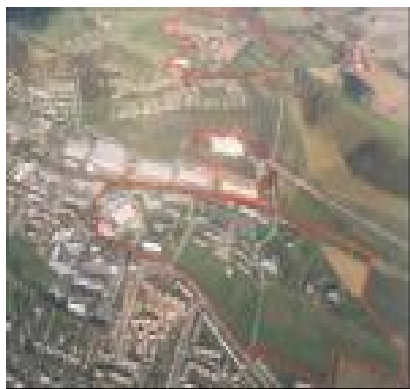
SD: I don't deny that there were sightings in Warminster, but the question is; what were those sightings of? In our experience, and I grant you that we say in the book that we were going up later, in the early mid-70s after all the initial brouhaha, but even then we were aware that people were seeing lights in the sky and we have been there when people have seen lights in the sky and we have seen the overexcitement that those sightings generated, when to us they were either obviously car headlights in the distance or satellites.

So people were seeing stuff; the question is what were they seeing and how influenced were they by the myth that was building up or had already built up around the place.

SM: There are a number of very strange elements to this and it's not a straightforward scenario from start to finish. To start with, and I don't know whether you share this intuition, but I cannot get away from its location and its proximity to the army. Do you feel within your bones that there is some connection with the army there?

SD: The only connection that I would feel exists with the army is that a lot of people came up to the hills who *weren't* aware of what the army do. So the fact that they throw up of couple of flares, the fact that that they shoot off tracer shells, the fact that the odd missile would be fired over the plain, they wouldn't know about that, they wouldn't know in which direction they were looking in, they wouldn't know how far into the plain they were and how much of the land was behind them or even the fact that they were actually standing on army land. Even now, after all these years living here, I can drive around the corner and see seven flares in the sky, and just for a second be freaked out, because you're not expecting it. It's such an odd thing to see; a constellation of flares that looked like they are just hanging there that for a moment, it's unnerving.

The people that actually went there and didn't know about these things and about how slowly flares move and that they tend to blink out while they are still in the sky rather than when they have reached the ground; for them that would have been a surprise.



Warminster

SM: Also, along with many of the sightings of figures seen by the sides of roads, there were reports of balaclava clad figures. Now one tends to suspect that might well have been somebody in the army.

SD: Yes, one would suspect that. We mention in the book that we didn't bother going back questioning witnesses because many of them wouldn't have been here anymore or they would have been very old or most of them would have just seen lights in the sky anyway. But that kind of occurrence wasn't so interesting to us. All we were interested in were the narrative that was going on at the time.

But yes, it seemed to us that those types of stories were about soldiers. Between Nook camp which was 4 miles from Warminster and the army barracks which are

actually in the Warminster, stuff would have happened. There are always fighting in the town between squaddies and the townspeople. So to find that maybe some bruised and battered kid was getting over the fence after meeting up with some balaclava clad guy by the side of the road, in the context of the social stuff that goes on around the town, isn't that surprising.

SM: I do find the phantom suicides particularly interesting because it's much more immediate, and certainly in terms of proximity to the witnesses they were virtually on top of them as opposed to being a few hundred feet or whatever above their heads. What do you make of all that because there were quite a few reports of those.

SD: What I make of them is what I've always made of them, and that is they are misconceptions – we're getting an Andy radical misperception moment coming on here - that are contained within the myth. So the misperceptions gain an aura of their own. You drive around the corner and perhaps see a badger out of the corner of your eye. Then you drive over some bumps in the road and everything comes together in a different way because you live within that myth.

SM: What is it like living in the town of Warminster or what was it like them? Is it a very atmospheric place?

SD: Yes and no.

SM: Are people driving around in a constant state of auto suggestion?

SD: No, not at all. It's very different now and a lot of local people don't even know about it. Again, at the time I would say that the town made its own aura by being part of a myth. So as the story of the UFOs built up, so the town gained an aura and in turn so did the hills. I used to go out walking on the hills. I'd even go out during the day if I was going up Cradle Hill for example and when I was younger I would walk a lot. But even in bright daylight I would still feel the atmosphere there because there were so many stories associated with it.

SM: Even though from a young age in the 70s you were already quite sceptical? But yet, you weren't immune from that?

SD: When we first got out there we were perhaps around 14 years old and we weren't sceptical at the time. We were into all that stuff at the time; the UFOs, the cults, we had read our Colin Wilson, Alistair Crowley and Gardiner.



Cley Hill with a crop circle

SM: Yes but you haven't left behind all common sense or sanity. I remember one incident where you calmly pointed out to people that they were looking at car headlights.

SD: That's the point; we hadn't lost all sanity. And also, when you are with a group of friends there is a variation, in a way, in your scepticism and susceptibility. When I first started going up there, I was the biggest chicken in the world. I must hold my hand up there. I was the one that was always being freaked out by trees and fields and thinking they were aliens and things like that and it was always my sceptical friends who would climb over the fence saying, "Don't be a stupid bastard. It's a tree or a cow or whatever".

But when you are in that kind of environment where everybody is crosschecking each other and saying no it's not, it's that or it's this, then I suppose your group as a whole becomes more sceptical. You've always got a cross check. It seems to me that some people who maybe went up there didn't do that. They wanted to come to Warminster, they wanted to be thrilled, they weren't about to sit their going, "No, it's just a....." If two people said, "Look, there's a UFO", the third person with them isn't going to disagree. People made this huge effort to get there, maybe having driven a long way, and people wanted to see stuff. So maybe they weren't quite so sceptical.

SM: The combined picture of Warminster that you paint is one of a social/cultural/paranormal/conflux of errr things. That's why it's so bizarre.

SD: It's not like you can put your finger on it and say that it is one particular thing. Is it a UFO or is it Arthur Shuttlewood writing books about it or newspaper articles? From our way of looking at it, there are a lot of things that were happening. Gordon Faulkner hoaxes a picture, Shuttlewood is writing stories, the town council wants some tourists, there are a whole host of things that come together and it's a coming together of all those elements I think that made Warminster so special.

SM: But you are fairly confident that without the input of Mr Shuttlewood, none of this would have happened?

SD: Actually, I'm not, no I'm not confident it wouldn't have happened. It helped that, as I say in the book, he didn't write his first book until 1967. The only thing he was doing before then was dripping out stuff to the national press because he had access to them. It may have been that if anybody had wanted to continue the myth then they could have done the same thing. If the town councillors had wanted to do it, they could have done it.

SM: You skirt the edge of another angle to it as well, namely the religious angle, the disciples. Thomas et al. What was that about?

SD: There were people who turned up - there were all kinds of people who turned up in Warminster. As I wasn't there during the big bit of it but rather at the tail end of it, I didn't experience much of that. As I say in the book, by the time we started going out there Arthur Shuttlewood wasn't going up there so much. So the only things I been able to pick up have been from other books about who was contacting Arthur and who was hanging around with him and who was getting messages to him.

But I think anybody like Arthur who has set themselves up and who has charisma and is the central person to go to is going to attract people like that.

SM: The Noise. You express some doubt that it could actually have forced that lady to collapse on the floor.

SD: The reason I express that opinion was because if you go back and read the original report which Shuttlewood published in the *Warminster Journal*, it is not as dramatic as it is in his book. In his book he says she was forced to the floor and pinned down by a numbing weight. But in the *Warminster Journal* it wasn't like that. It is just, "Local woman hears mystery sound on Christmas Eve" type of thing. And it was puzzling and a surprise and shocking to her but there is no description of her being forced to the ground or any of that kind of stuff.

SM: Isn't that then dishonest of Arthur Shuttlewood to elevate the incident to the point that he did and to describe it as he did?

SD: It's kind of dishonest but he's a writer, you know? There's a good quote in the book somewhere from another cultural historian talking about lies where he says that a fact that is unembroidered is a boring fact and nobody is interested and it's only by embroidering certain facts that you begin to get people interested in what you're talking about. And I quite like that quote.

So yes, there is certainly an element of exaggeration which I think we pointed out in the book but whether I would go so far as to say he was dishonest, I don't know. It could be that he is honestly reporting what happened and that it was just that there was a lot of embroidery around what happened.

S M: This visit he had from an "alien". I don't even really know what to ask you about that.

SD: It's difficult, isn't it? The problem is the guy is dead, his family won't talk.....

SM: Why's that?

SD: They might talk now. More persuasive interviewers than me and John might get results. We were never good at interviews so we kind of avoided that. You have to realise what your limits and talents are! If Andy or Dave want to go and talk to them one day, they might get through.

SM: I don't think they'll write a better book though.

SD: Oh, thank you very much.

SM: There's no question, it's a very well written book and well researched and well thought through as well.

SD: When Arthur was ill and just after he died, they did make it clear that they didn't want to talk about the UFO stuff and that they just wanted to forget all that. It may be that in the future, somebody else may talk to them but my point was going to be that without going back and interviewing people, trying to find out what the actual family thought about this strange guy coming round claiming to be an alien would be difficult. Each one of his children was there when the alien arrived, and actually answered the phone to the alien in the first place.

The one thing I would add is that Warminster has a huge history of hoaxing as well.

SM: Yes, and you deal with that as well a fair bit.

SD: The guy who turned up claiming to be an alien actually looked very much like a human and talked English.

SM: You would have thought that Shuttlewood, not being a stupid man by any stretch of the imagination, would have noticed!

SD: The thing is, by that time Arthur had started creating his own myth. He was part of it all, he was the centre of it all, he was the one receiving information and if any aliens were going to phone anyone up, they were going to phone him. I think it becomes very easy to become part of your own myth as it were.

SM: So you think there was an element of self-delusion involved as well with him simply because he got so immersed in it?

SD: I don't think it would be too harsh to say that there was an element of self-delusion. I have never wanted to be too harsh on Arthur.

SM: I noticed that, that there is a reticence there. Can I ask why?

SD: Because I think in general he was honestly trying to cope with something he didn't know how to cope with.

SM: When I came to the chapter about Mr Holton and his involvement, I actually felt quite disappointed that it almost seemed to blow the whole thing away virtually.

SD: Actually, that turned up very late. That was actually reported in the *Warminster Journal* in June last year and I don't read the *Warminster Journal*, although I should because there is always the chance that this sort of stuff might turn up. A guy called Dave Simpson who you will have seen in the book as the hoaxing guy, he's in contact with somebody from Warminster and they forwarded it to him and he forwarded it to me and by then, the book was already in the process of being edited for Anomalist Books so we had to say to the guy at Anomalist, "What about this. What do you want us to do about it?" And he said, "You've got to put it in". As it was one of my chapters, I had to do a bit of express rewriting. Yes, in a way it's kind of disappointing but also in a way it fits in with everything that's kind of gone on in the Warminster really. It was no surprise to me.

SM: Without any trace of condemnation or criticism at all, you do highlight the gullibility of people, like for example the Faulkner photograph and the other fake photo and even Stannway from BUFORA, a source that you would expect to have a little more objectivity. Clearly, that element played a large part in the whole affair as well. Would you agree with that?



Another pix of Shuttlewood

SD: Yes, I would agree. Because people came to Warminster wanting to see UFOs. There weren't many people who came to Warminster who didn't want to see UFOs.

SM: It would be quite easy to cut a swathe right through all of this and criticise people left right and centre for fundamentally not being very bright on occasions, but you don't do that.

SD: No, because I have been there. I have seen trees that looked like aliens but luckily I had a bunch of sceptical kids around me going, "Don't be a wanker". So I know what it's like to live in a town that has had this happen. I know what it's like to walk along Cradle Hill and be scared out of my wits.

I mention this in the book but there is a bridge on the way between Warminster and a village outside Warminster called Heytesbury and there have been a lot of accidents that have occurred at that bridge. It is always a strange experience to walk across the bridge -- a place where many people have died. So I know. I can fully understand people getting carried away and getting sucked into it.

In a way, one of the reasons for the book and what we wrote about was because we couldn't understand why no scepticism seems to have come in to the scenario.

SM: What was your motive for writing the book, other than perhaps that you saw an opportunity?

SD: We're not so blasé not to realise that actually there is no particular opportunity if we manage to sell 300 copies of the book as it would be counted as a triumph on our part. When we were younger, we were heavily into all of this stuff, me and John. We were literally sitting around one day and we realised that we knew a lot about this stuff and we thought we should do something about it, so it was literally one of those decisions where we went "Oh, let's write a book!"

Originally we were just going to write a generic UFO book which was intended to be a bit more sceptical and we were going to use Warminster as an example in the background rather than being specifically about Warminster. But in the end, mainly through a decision by me, it was decided that it would actually be more fun to write about Warminster as the main subject. There weren't any books around about it itself and everything else about Warminster is sucked into other books about ufology in general.

SM: I think what I was getting at when I asked the question was, was one of the reasons the fact that this was one of the biggest Ufological incidents to occur within the UK and there was a sense of injustice that this era, so to speak, is not recognised or given more acknowledgement and that maybe you just wanted to remind people that all of this did happen.

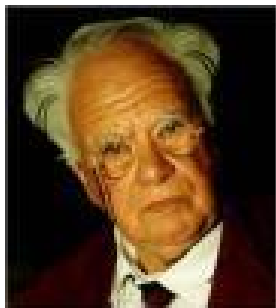
SD: Yes, there is a part of that. I think one of the driving forces was when I was doing a chapter on Warminster when the book was in its old version and I was reading back through John Rimmer's and John Harney's MURG.

SM: Can I just interrupted there and say that you are far too kind and generous to them, and even Andy and Dave!

SD: Yeah, well, I thought I was a bit with John Harney.

SM: Where?!

SD: He was saying that the audience were sniggering at Arthur Shuttlewood. John Harney had gone to a meeting I think it was at Sheffield and Shuttlewood was speaking and Harney was in the audience and he claimed that the audience were sniggering into their coat jackets or something like that. I was a bit harsh on him then as I said how could he know that the audience were making fun of Shuttlewood because he isn't a mind reader.



Patrick Moore – had trouble taking it seriously

SM: I think you are clutching at straws! But that's by the by. The fact is that the two John's were around then and did visit, and visited more than once and had a legitimate input and wrote something about it.

SD: I do quote them quite a lot. From my point of view, the advantage of quoting them was that they were actually there so when John Rimmer talks about Shuttlewood's charisma and his ability to tell stories and his ability to draw people into his world as it were, then from my point of view that is good information. It is not information that I can easily pick up from elsewhere.

SM: But you knew Shuttlewood yourself.

SD: We bumped into Shuttlewood, we didn't really know him. By the time we started going out there he had begun to cut back on the time he spent on the hills.

SM: What little contact you had with him, and presumably more from afar than.....

SD: The trouble is, when you go up there in the dark, you don't really know who's up there.

SM: But did you form an opinion of him back then or did you not recognise his pre-eminence in relation to the subject at that time?

SD: I think we only ended up in a group which we knew he was in maybe a couple of times and we attached ourselves to the gaggle of people around us. And on one of those occasions, which I described in the book, we saw a helicopter over the plain and it somehow transformed itself, via Arthur, into a UFO flashing its lights.

SM: In that sentence, do you think that you have put your finger inadvertently on why people are embarrassed about Warminster now? There's just too much of that?

SD: Oh yes, don't get me wrong, I think that is one of the reasons why and also because a lot of ufologists at the time were sucked into it so big. But they were down there all the time, they were agreeing with Shuttlewood, they were literally sharing information and theories and it seems to me that people now want to step back from that and say, "Oh, that was all a terrible mistake."

SM: You never heard rumours about army involvement in this? Rumours never circulated around the town?

SD: No, the army were always in the town, there was no need to infiltrate it.

SM: But wouldn't people talk? When someone within the military might have mentioned something to somebody else who in turn passed it on.....?

SD: Not as far as I can tell. From my point of view, the only big mystery about Warminster outside of the mythmaking is the Sound at the beginning of the whole thing. Now, that may have had some army input. But the very first time that Sound was heard was on Christmas Eve, and the army don't do anything on Christmas Eve, even to test out their new sonic weapons.

SM: Has anybody thought to do any FOIA requests on this?

SD: They probably haven't, no. I certainly haven't because the ease with which you can do FOIA stuff is relatively new and you must remember that we started this book a very, very long time ago. The stuff that began to become of interest to us wasn't so much chasing the cause of the sightings but more how did the story start and how it maintained itself and attracted people.

SM: I would reckon there is an awful lot of potential there.

SD: There is still stuff to be found out about Warminster. For the people who want to do that kind of research of going to wherever it is.....

SM: Errrr the National Archives!

SD: I hate technical things like that! But if people want to do things like that, I think there is still stuff to be researched. They may not find anything because I'm not entirely sure that anything was going on anyway.

SM: Really?

SD: Yes. It was just the School of infantry that was around us, no top secret bases as far as I'm aware. There may have dug a hole on a hilltop and done some secret stuff but I don't think there's anything particular ever been going on there. I think there are much better places on Salisbury Plain to do that kind of stuff, further away from the population.

SM: Right, so you appear to be separating the army from any involvement?

SD: Yes. All I'm saying is there is stuff that goes on on the Plain; there are helicopters, there are aeroplanes, there are rockets, there is all kinds of stuff that goes on, much more in the old days than there is now. And so I am separating it in that respect. People saw stuff up there. Some of the stuff they saw would have been the army doing things but not secret stuff, which I think is the implication of your question.

But I may be wrong on that and it's worth researching.

SM: What about the Ley Line element?

SD: Yeah, what about the Ley Line element? You have to accept from me that because I'm a sceptic about UFOs, I am also a sceptic about nearly everything in that realm. So the fact that there are a load of Ley lines there means absolutely nothing to me.

SM: I don't know whether this is accepted in the scientific sense but certainly in a New Age sense it is accepted that there is a sort of power attached to Ley lines and there are a number of mysterious sightings of balls of light, not very high up off the ground at all, disappearing into hills and things like that.

SD: I would separate out the fact that there might be balls of light that disappear into the ground from Ley lines. I don't know of anybody who has ever made a very good association between those things, apart from New Age people who find associations between many strange things.



Gordon Creighton of FSR

SM: I did mention to you about how wry I thought you both were at times. You don't go overboard with it but it is there, so to speak. I suppose if one wanted to form an opinion of the authors, one would think that they have their feet on the ground but perhaps are a bit dubious?

SD: Yes, we are sceptics. There is no doubt about that. On the Ley line thing I would say okay, people who are into Ley lines can draw lots of lines on a map and end up with the

fact that there are 12 Ley lines near Warminster, but the only guy whoever did that who was to become editor of *The Ley Hunter*, Jimmy Goddard, when he drew them he could only get three Ley lines that didn't even cross but intersected somewhere near Clay Hill, and 12 Ley lines, which is apparently some kind of record, intersected at a place somewhere outside of Warminster and nowhere near any of the hills that people saw things from. He described the place at which they intersected as a muddy backwater of the River Wiley if I remember rightly. I know where he means and nobody ever saw any UFOs down there.

So if there is something to this Ley line stuff then why the hell weren't people camping out in the muddy backwater of the River Wiley?

SM: Another name that comes up in the book, and he comes up in other situations as well, and it always irritates me when I read about him is Patrick Moore. He just seems to have taken the piss right from the start. And as you say, he only has one joke, and it gets a bit tiresome. Nevertheless, he was sufficiently intrigued to come down.

SD: Yes, he was sufficiently intrigued because he was being paid to do a television programme. I think he was associated with a TV series called *One Pair of Eyes* which did a series of documentaries of which Patrick did some.

SM: You certainly look around the whole thing in a very complete circular exercise. It's almost as if there isn't really an element of it that you have overlooked.

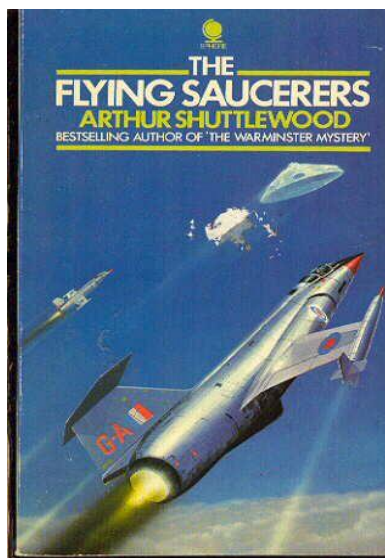
SD: We try to look at everything that was in the literature about the nature of the narrative and the myth. I went back to all of Arthur's books and read every single one of them several times. Have you ever tried reading one?

SM: I haven't actually, no.

SD: He has a particular style.

SM: I certainly gather that and you quote a few examples.

SD: It can be very hard. It's all right when you're 14 or whatever but if it's the first time you've ever read a UFO book when you are in your 40s and reading it



again.....As a matter of interest, we have been writing this book for 25 years. We started in 1982.

SM: You're lucky that over that period of time, nobody actually beat you to it.

SD: Well yes but we didn't expect anybody to beat us to it, to be honest.

SM: I suppose that underlines the point that you make really – that it's just ignored now.

SD: And the thing is that when you read anything else, like Peter Brooks Smith has got a bit on it in a book somewhere, John Rimmer has another article somewhere as well, but they always just go for

Shuttlewood. Whenever anybody has written anything about Warminster it's, "Okay. Something happened there but, you know, Arthur Shuttlewood wrote all those books and he was the man at the centre, and therefore ipso facto QED it's all his fault.

When you were talking about motivations earlier, one of the motivations was to show that Arthur wasn't the only person who had created this thing. Arthur may have sustained it by being a Guru on top of the hill who people could talk to, but he wasn't the only one who created it. As I said in the book, Gordon Creighton could have been said to have created it by sending a letter to the *Warminster Journal* saying that the weird sound was from a UFO. He jumped in with both feet.

As I said, we started writing the book in 1982 but by the mid-80s, people weren't in the least bit interested in UFOs for a while so we thought there was no point in doing it and that we were just wasting our time. We were doing it on spec and we didn't have a commission to do it and we were going to end up just writing something for no good reason. So we let it drop off for a while and it lay dormant.

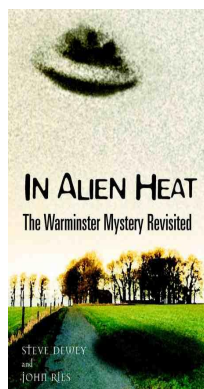
Then I found a chapter that John had written about ufology being a techno religion and re-read it again and found it very interesting. I thought it would be a shame for it to be wasted and so we had a chat about it one day and that started it all off again. It was during that period that it kind of changed its structure and became more of a Warminster book than a generic UFO book.

SM: As you have acknowledged, both of you are sceptics. What is your incentive for staying in the subject and continuing to take an interest?

SD: I don't consider myself a ufologist, more of a cultural historian. So when I was writing the book, I was looking at it from that point of view. I maintain an interest in general enough to stay on the ufologyinUK list because I have been writing about this stuff for so long, and I was there, at least in the 70s. I have always been part of the UFO melia since I was young. So I have this kind of vague interest in the same way that I have a vague interest in something like Formula One or rugby or cricket. I'm not a big fanatic but I maintain an interest.

SM: Steve, thank you very much.

<http://www.anomalistbooks.com/dewey-ries.html>



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THE CHURCH OF UFOLOGICAL SCIENCE



DO YOU WANT TO LOOK LIKE THIS?
DO YOU WANT TO BE A UFOLOGICAL SCIENTIST?

Pastor Dick Hall invites you to enrol in our "open to anyone providing you produce the results that we want" Church. Below is his welcoming address.



"The desire on the part of some Ufologists for mainstream science to take an interest in Ufology is very great. There are two reasons for this. The first is that if a larger collection of brighter brains with better facilities starts to take a look into the subject seriously, then there is much more of a chance that real results might emerge.

The other reason for the desire for science to take Ufology more seriously is that some of those heavily involved with Ufology are sensitive to the fact that other "serious" people consider them to be superficial light weights for taking an

interest in what amounts to a tabloid subject. A serious scientific involvement therefore bestows credibility and prestige upon a subject that is currently not laden with gravitas in many quarters.

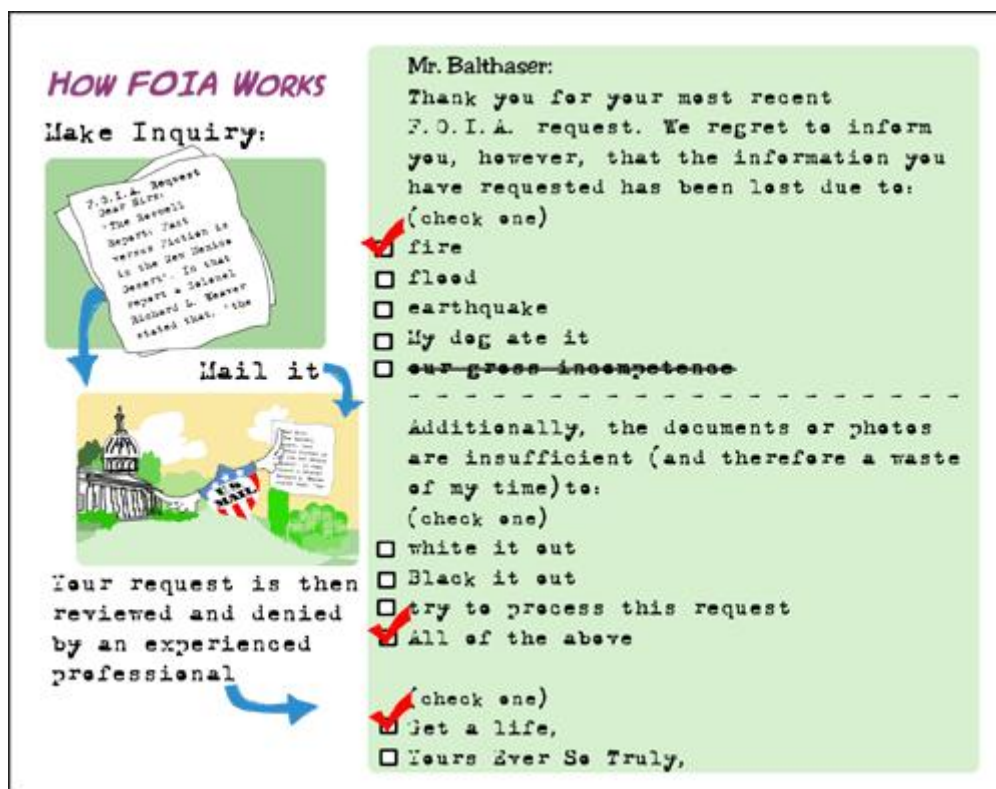
So, what are the personal requirements needed in order to become a UFO scientist?

- A complete lack of imagination
- A desire for a quiet life
- A smug, self satisfied demeanour that tells the world that you are closed to new ideas.
- A conviction that only science has the answers, and while the world isn't a straight forward place, some of the crack pot thinking that "Ufologists" and "Paranormalists" come up with just goes to show that when it comes to the Human race, we aren't running out of eccentrics and loonies just yet.
- A susceptibility towards the psychological processes, including biases of perception and memory as well as social influence and a need to believe in the erroneous conviction that science is the answer are likely to contribute in a major way to sceptical reports and to the continuing fascination with them. In other words, if you want to become a scientist, you have to be capable of self delusion.
- A predisposition towards dishonesty which has to manifest itself in any debate with Ufologists and which involves denying the obvious or deliberately avoiding evidence which contradicts your beliefs. You must also be prepared to falsify scientific results because the truth or the desire to help mankind obviously is secondary to money."



Searching for the Truth

(Always Telling the Truth Means Never Having to Remember Anything)



"Is Anyone Accountable for Records?"

by

Dennis G. Balthaser

03-01-06

One of the most troublesome things I have encountered during my many years of doing UFO research, is the lack of accountability by those supposedly in control of documents and information pertaining to this subject. Of course it's by no means limited to just Ufology research, but also to many other areas, within our military and government establishments. Trying to obtain documents from those groups for validation of information is practically impossible, and it appears to me that no one wants to take responsibility for that. My question has always been---who has given those individuals the authority to withhold information and not be accountable for it? Responses like "the records were destroyed", or "were transferred to another agency", are too frequently used when requesting information.

In this editorial I will give some examples of such instances, where I have personally tried to obtain information, as well as that of other individuals who have also been denied information through various attempts.

One of the most common responses to document requests is "blacking out" certain information on documents. That no longer looks good on television when

researchers like Stanton Friedman hold up the documents, so in some cases "whiteout" is now used.

Military Records are kept at the National Personnel Records Center in St Louis, Missouri. Many times when a Freedom of Information Act Request (FOIA) is submitted (as required), pertaining to an individual assigned to Roswell Army Airfield in 1947, the response returned has a rubber stamp note stating, " No record located. If on file on July 12, 1973, ***it may have been destroyed*** in a fire on that date". *May have been destroyed? Was it destroyed or not?* In my experience, an appeal rarely produces any additional information. The military personnel I usually request information on were assigned to the 509th Bomb Wing in Roswell, (the only Atomic bomb group in the world at the time), and their records may have been destroyed in a fire. Convenient, unfortunate, or an untruth!!!

One request for information that I worked on, starting in July 1999, with a FOIA request involved the United States Air Force report, "The Roswell Report: Fact versus Fiction in the New Mexico Desert". In that report a Colonel Richard L. Weaver stated that, "the photographs taken in General Ramey's office were sent to a national-level organization for interpretation and analysis". That "unnamed organization" reported back that, "the photos were of insufficient quality to analyze". My first request was submitted to the Department of the Air Force at the Pentagon, requesting copies of the correspondence between the Air Force and the national-level organization that analyzed the photographs, along with copies of the report returned to the Air Force. After several delay letters from the Air Force, in November 1999 I was informed that all records regarding this subject were returned to the Air Force Historical Research agency at Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

When I contacted Maxwell AFB, I was told they have no such documents within their archives, nor did they have any inter-office documents regarding the "Roswell Report", and I was invited to file an appeal. What I did receive from Maxwell Air Force Base was an 81-page list of information available on microfilm about Roswell Army Airfield dealing with everything the base was associated with except information about the Roswell Incident. I didn't feel that information about the base "Supply and Food Service, Motor Vehicles, when aircraft arrived at the base, or maintenance of aircraft" were pertinent to my FOIA request. Basically this meant there were no documents in the Air Force archives to substantiate the remarks made by Colonel Weaver in the Air Force Report about the Roswell Incident.

By March 2000, I had received so many delay responses while the Air Force searched their records, that I finally told the Lieutenant in charge of my request that he would probably be promoted to Major or Lt. Colonel by the time my requests were fulfilled, if ever fulfilled.

Since the Air Force report was an official document, I asked if Colonel Weaver had ever been contacted to determine where he obtained the information he was referring to in the report about the photographs being analyzed by a national-level organization. The response from the Air Force about that request stated, "we are not obligated to do so under FOIA", since anything that is not tangible or a documentary record does not qualify as a "record".

I did obtain one page of a 4-page "Fax" from the University of Texas at Arlington, Special Collections, addressed to Captain McAndrew indicating he was receiving 3 pages of "something". Since the University of Texas at Arlington is the repository for those photographs, the date of the fax was 07-18-96, and it was addressed to

Captain McAndrew, I'm assuming the pages dealt with the next excuse the Air Force presented in 1997 entitled "The Roswell Incident: Case Closed". Additionally in this response from Maxwell AFB, I was advised that "the custody of these records was currently being transferred from Maxwell AFB to the National Archives either in Maryland or Washington DC.

I indicated my disappointment to the lieutenant in charge of my FOIA request at Maxwell AFB in October 2000, and had to write again in February 2001 since I did not receive a response to my October letter. When he responded I noticed he had been promoted to Captain (on his way to Major as I mentioned earlier). Again I was advised that I could submit an appeal and my final correspondence to Maxwell AFB occurred on March 7, 2001.

Researcher David Rudiak has suggested that I resume my research on this, however since the documents have been transferred to a National Archive, it would mean starting over.

As a final example, the late New Mexico Congressman Steven Schiff made a valiant attempt to obtain information about the Roswell Incident in the 1990's, when he requested a full investigation of the Incident. Congressman Schiff released the 20-page, General Accounting Office (GAO) Report in a press release on July 28, 1995. In the press release Congressman Schiff indicated that, "important documents which may have shed more light on what happened at Roswell, are missing."

The Chief Archivist for the National Personnel Records Center provided the GAO with documentation indicating that (1) RAAF records such as finance and accounting, supplies, buildings and grounds, and other general administrative matters from March 1945 through December 1949 and (2) RAAF outgoing messages from October 1946 through December 1949 were destroyed. The document disposition form did not properly indicate the authority under which the disposal action was taken. Other records including outgoing RAAF messages for 1950 were also destroyed. Schiff understood that these outgoing messages were permanent records, which should never have been destroyed. Since the records had been destroyed over 40 years ago, further inquiry about their destruction was impractical according to Schiff.

An FBI Teletype document revealed by the report referred to a "radar-tracking device" – a reference to a weather balloon, which the Air Force themselves later discredited.

58 years after the Roswell Incident occurred, we continue to lose first-hand witnesses, and the more research that is done on the Incident, the more we realize that accountability for records and documentation has been and continues to be a major problem. When will someone in our government come forward and take the responsibility we expect from our representatives and leaders?

Dennis G. Balthaser

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"Please, just wipe my mind not my posh accent!"

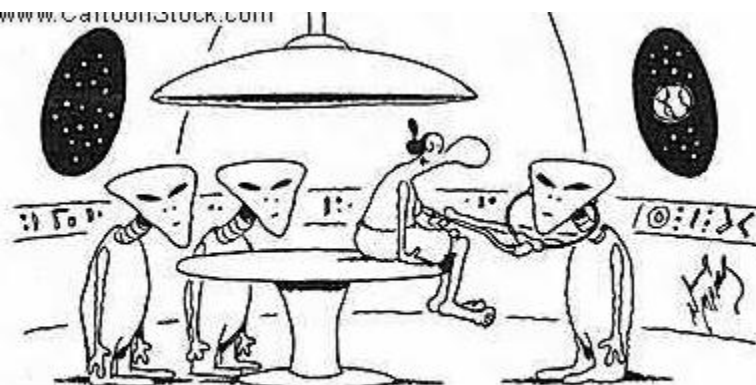
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"A warm stethoscope? Wow! You guys really are advanced."

SENSATIONAL SCOOP!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

MARS ROVERS – THE PICTURES THEY WOULDN'T LET YOU SEE HORROR THINGY!!



We all agree that those Mars rovers have been doing a wonderful job and are not only a tribute to American engineering but they have also greatly and vastly increased Man's knowledge of the red planet. But of course, we only get to see the pictures they want us to see and we are left wondering about what might be there and is being kept back from us.

UFO Review is of course dedicated to bringing its readers **The Truth** ©UFO mag deceased and is proud to announce that we have an inside source at NASA who deeply resents the secrecy being perpetuated on the international public and feels that it is only right that the world realises that there is intelligent life walking around up there.

So, without further ado, sit back and gawp in absolute amazement as we show you who and what is really happening up there.

1. Always standing behind the cameras of the two rovers so as not to get into a picture shot, Opportunity caught the crowd that is there almost permanently on the hop when controllers back on Earth accidentally swung the camera arm around too quickly. This is what they saw;



Visiting the "Earth Ships" has, over the last two years, become a popular pastime for Martian families who visit in much the same way that earth families, brains left at home, climb into the family car on a Sunday afternoon and go to stare at, say, animals in a zoo. The rovers are considered in much the same context. However, there are many who have, rather patronisingly, "adopted" Earth as "the place they would most like to live" if they couldn't live on their own planet and could actually breathe oxygen, and they consider it fun to dress up in Earth costumes (basically, our clothes) and for a few hours, pretend they are human. Some have taken it to another point and actually had plastic surgery, Martian style, to make themselves look more human. An example of that is below. Everyone in the picture below is actually Martian.



Like with similar events on Earth that suddenly spring up in a location unexpectedly and a whole mini economic system quickly grows round it like hot dog stands, souvenir vendors, and so on, so too does the same phenomenon occur on Mars. The *Martian Troopers*, a fringe based theatrical group has been putting on shows for the visitors to the rovers. Below is a scene from a dramatisation they have staged that is meant to represent the first meeting between Martians and Humans. The figure to the forefront is supposed to be a Human and is in difficulty on the Martian surface after his landing capsule dropped rather heavily. The guys in the background are his Martian rescuers.



Like on Earth, there is a type of class system on Mars. It isn't quite run along the same lines as down here and is not dependent on either money or birth but is directly related to political power. These people are awarded privileges and other benefits, like in the case below. They have had built for them a sightseeing tower which affords them a better view of the rovers and has more comfortable facilities and is of course removed from the hoi polloi.



And finally, again just like us, the Martians love a flutter, but up on Mars, they bet not on their equivalent of horse racing but on Grabandmunch racing. Grabandmunchits are similar in appearance to rabbits but are approximately 12 times their size. Despite their rather frightening names, they are very tame and docile animals. But the Martians are flexible and bookies have sprung up near the rovers and people have been placing bets on which way the rovers will turn next, when they will stop, when it is time for a superintendent to discreetly clean the rover's solar panels, and so on. The Martians are not a backward race but their telephone system is truly antiquated by our standards. Below is a Martian bookie who has had plastic surgery, taking bets near the rovers.

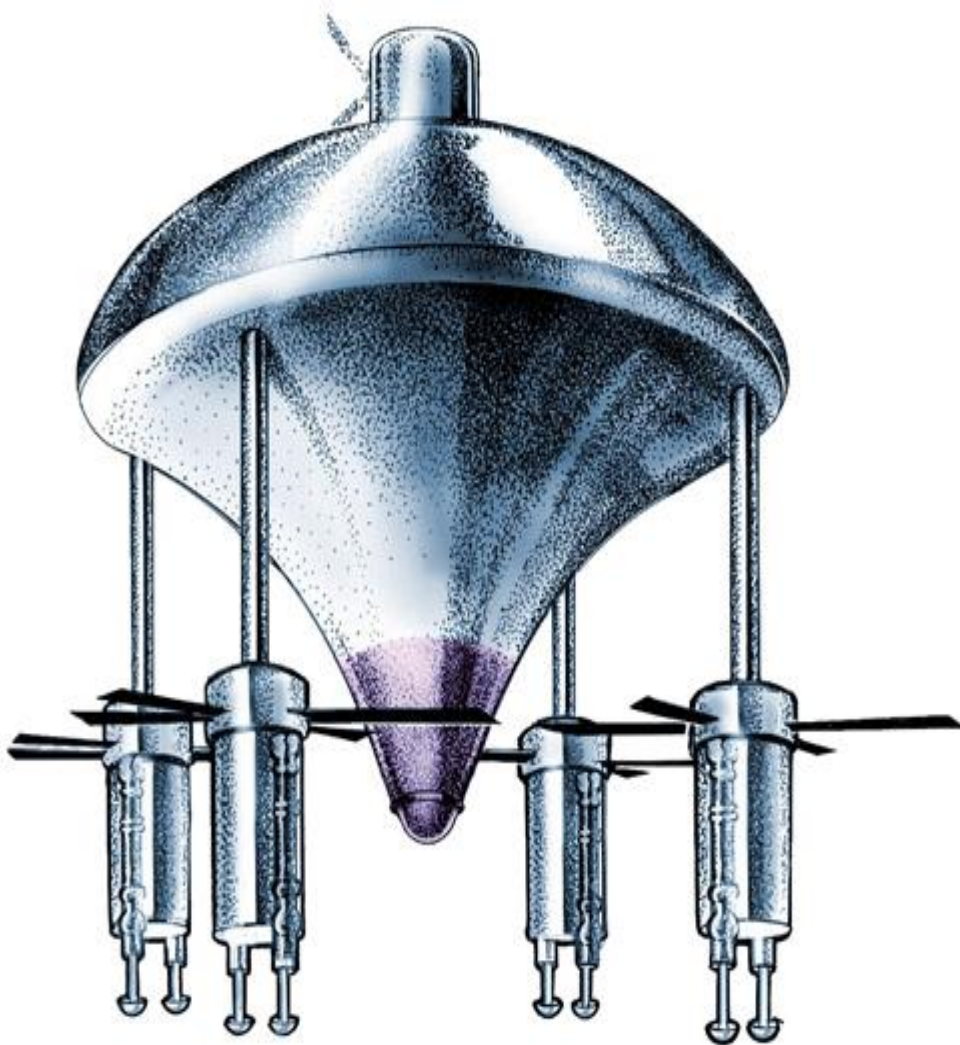


This is a CSICOPian article that appeared something like 6 month ago that space has prevented me from publishing before. Interesting.

The Spaceships of Ezekiel

by Tim Callahan

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A UFO as imagined in late Josef Blumrich's 1973 book *The Spaceships of Ezekiel* (Bantam. ISBN 0553083783). Unaware that Ezekiel had described God enthroned, Blumrich, a NASA rocket engineer, reinterpreted Ezekial's description

as a UFO. Blumrich worked on the Saturn 5 rocket, the Lunar Lander and on Skylab.

The Spaceships of Ezekiel

by Tim Callahan

A perennial example of a supposed ancient record of extraterrestrial contact, used by authors asserting that alien astronauts visited the Earth in antiquity, is to be found in the first chapter of Ezekiel, in which that prophet, in exile near Babylon, recounts a vision (Ezek. 1:4–28):

As I looked, behold, a stormy wind came out of the north, and a great cloud, with brightness round about it, and fire flashing forth continually, and in the midst of the fire, as it were gleaming bronze. And from the midst of it came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance: they had the form of men, but each had four faces, and each had four wings. Their legs were straight, and the soles of their feet were like the sole of a calf's foot; and they sparkled like burnished bronze. Under the wings on their four sides they had human hands. And the four had their faces and their wings thus: their wings touched one another; they went straightforward, without turning as they went.

As for the likeness of their faces, each had the face of a man in front; the four had the face of a lion on the right side, the four had the face of an ox on the left side, and the four had the face of an eagle at the back. Such were their faces. And their wings were spread out above; each creature had two wings, each of which touched the wing of another, while two covered their bodies. And each went straightforward; wherever the spirit would go, they went, without turning as they went. In the midst of the living creatures was something that looked like burning coals of fire, like torches moving to and fro, like a flash of lightning. And the living creatures darted to and fro, like a flash of lightning.

Now as I looked at the living creatures, I saw a wheel upon the earth beside the living creatures, one for each of the four of them. As for the appearance of the wheels and their construction; their appearance was like the gleaming of chrysolite; and the four had the same likeness, their construction being as it were a wheel within a wheel. When they went, they went in any of their four directions without turning as they went. The four wheels rims were so high that they were dreadful and their rims were full of eyes round about. And when the living creatures went, the wheels went beside them; and when the living creatures rose from the earth, the wheels rose. Wherever the spirit would go, they went, and the wheels rose along with them; for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels. When those went, these went; and when those stood, these stood; and when those rose from the earth, the wheels rose along with them; for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels.

Over the heads of the living creatures there was the likeness of a firmament, shining like crystal, spread out above their heads. And under the firmament their

wings were stretched out straight, one toward another; and each creature had two wings covering its body. And when they went, I heard the sound of their wings like the sound of many waters, like the thunder of the Almighty, a sound of tumult like the sound of a host; when they stood still, they let down their wings. And there came a voice from above the firmament over their heads; when they stood still they let down their wings.

And above the firmament over their heads there was the likeness of a throne, in appearance like sapphire; and seated above the likeness of a throne was a likeness as it were of a human form. And upward from what had the appearance of his loins I saw as were gleaming bronze, like the appearance of fire enclosed round about; and downward from what had the appearance of his loins I saw as it were the appearance of fire, and there was a brightness round about him. Like the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud on the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness round about.

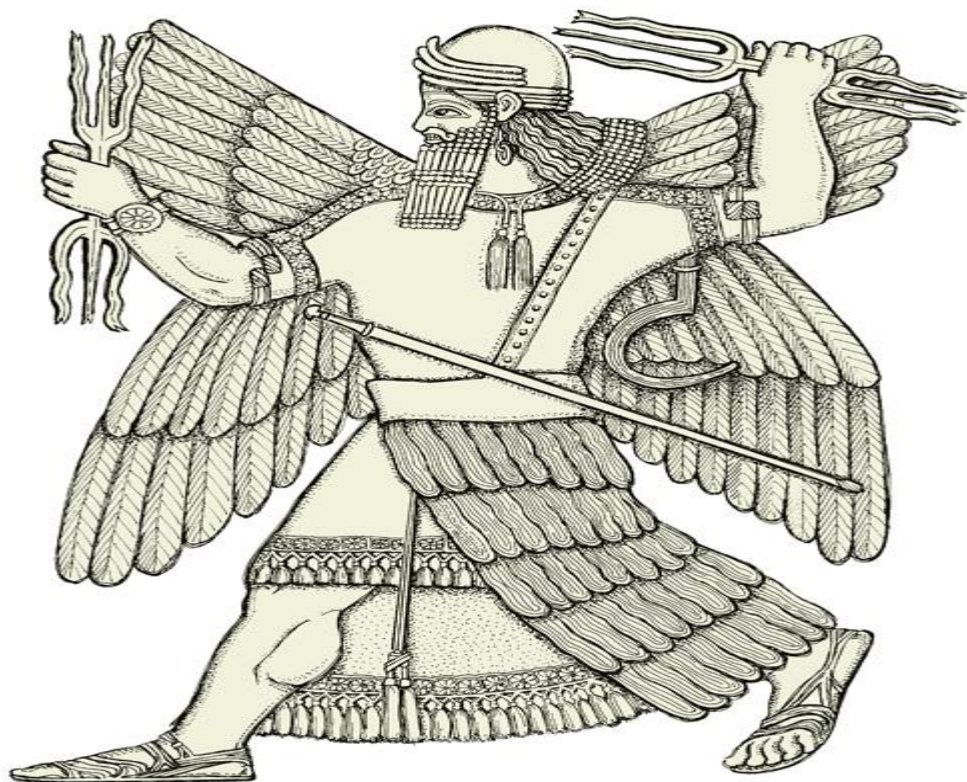
Such was the appearance of the glory of the LORD. And when I saw it, I fell upon my face and I heard the voice of one speaking.

What most often strikes UFO enthusiasts as reminiscent of a spaceship, other than the fact that everything that's in it is airborne, are the wheels. Before dealing with those specifically, however, let us consider the vision as a whole and see if the imagery of the ancient religions of the Near East isn't a better fit as the source of Ezekiel's vision than the imagery of a spaceship.

First of all, Ezekiel says he saw the apparition as a cloud coming on a wind from the north. The word translated as "north" is, in the original Hebrew, *zaphon*, a word that means "hidden" or "dark" and is only associated with the north as being a quarter of the compass that was gloomy and unknown. To the north of the civilized world in the perspective of the ancient near east lay wild barbaric lands out of which such nomadic peoples as the Cimmerians and the Scythians erupted to wreak havoc on the settled world. Thus the portent of the cloud is ominous or mysterious. However, *zaphon* is also the name of a locality, Mt. Zaphon in Lebanon, the home of the Canaanite gods. The patriarch of the Canaanite pantheon, El, was merged with Yahweh and is referred to in the Bible in the plural / intensive form *Elohim*. In fact the two names were often coupled as *Yahweh Elohim*, translated in the Bible as "the LORD GOD." In co-opting El's name, Yahweh also co-opted his wife, Asherah, whose image is constantly being removed from the Temple by strictly Yahwist kings such as Hezekiah and Josiah (2 Kgs. 18:4 and 23:6). Yahweh also would have been seen by his worshipers as taking over the sacred mountain of the Canaanite gods, Mt. Zaphon. Thus, the cloud that approaches from the north (*zaphon*) is both mysterious and holy.

Next, let us consider the living creatures within the flaming cloud. Though having the form of men, they have two sets of wings, four faces, and feet like calves' hooves. This chimera-like anatomy has been glossed over by those seeing Ezekiel's version as a spaceship. Their explanation is that the four faces are the faces of different alien beings looking out of different windows of the spacecraft.

Given Ezekiel's primitive mind-set, the argument goes, he certainly couldn't have understood what he was seeing. However, for someone who was overawed by indescribable space aliens, Ezekiel was very precise and particular in describing what he saw.



Supernatural beings were typically shown with multiple wings throughout the ancient Near East. The god Ninurta has four wings (shown here in a stone relief found in the temple of Ninurta at Nimrud, Iraq).

Furthermore, his imagery fits that of the myths of the ancient near east. In an ancient relief from the Assyrian city of Nineveh, the god Ninurta is shown with four wings, just as the beings in Ezekiel's vision have four wings. The wings of the four beings in the vision touched each other, which calls to mind the description of the cherubim in the Holy of Holies of Solomon's temple in 1 Kings 6:27, 28:

He put the cherubim in the innermost part of the house; and the wings of the cherubim were spread out so that a wing of one touched the one wall and the wing of the other cherub touched the other wall; their other wings touched each other in the middle of the house. And he overlaid the cherubim with gold.

As with the cherubim flanking the Holy of Holies, the wings of the living creatures in Ezekiel's vision touch each other. Solomon overlays the cherubim with gold, while the living creatures sparkle like burnished bronze. As to the four faces of the creatures in Ezekiel's vision, these, too, hearken back to the cherubim and to Solomon's temple. Lions and bulls are frequently mentioned as part of the

imagery of the temple interior (1 Kings 7:25, 29, 36). Cherubim were often depicted as having men's heads, the bodies of either lions or bulls — sometimes a lion's fore parts and a bull's hindquarters (hence the calf's feet of living creatures of Ezekiel 1:7) — and the wings of eagles sprouting from their lion or bull shoulders.

The symbolism expressed in this depiction of the cherubim is one of supremacy: The eagle is the foremost bird, the lion the foremost wild beast, and the bull the foremost domestic beast. All of these, coupled with human intelligence (symbolized by the man's head, or in Ezekiel's vision, a face) were indications of the godlike power of the cherub. This word in the original Hebrew form is *krubh*, which is related to the *Akkadian karibu*, meaning an intermediary between gods and men, a divine messenger. The word for messenger in Greek, hence the word used to designate divine messengers in the Christian scriptures, which were written in Greek, was *angelos*. So the living creatures of Ezekiel's vision were not bizarre four-faced space aliens. Nor were they a depiction of different alien species looking out of the portholes of a spaceship. They were angels.



The term *cherubim* in the Hebrew Bible refers not to our modern usage of “chubby young angels,” but to winged guardian figures, usually with a human head and the body of an animal. Shown here is an ivory carving of a cherub from Ahab's palace, Samaria, 9th century BCE (Palestine Archaeological Museum).

The thrones of Phoenician kings often had arm rests in the shape of cherubim, signifying divine sponsorship of the king, and God is often depicted in the Bible as enthroned on the cherubim. That this is precisely what Ezekiel relates in his vision is made clear by the final description in this passage (Ezek. 1:26–28):

And above the firmament over their heads there was the likeness of a throne, in appearance like sapphire; and seated above the likeness of a throne was a likeness as it were of a human form. And upward from what had the appearance of his loins I saw as were gleaming bronze, like the appearance of fire enclosed round about; and downward from what had the appearance of his loins I saw as it were the appearance of fire, and there was a brightness round about him. Like the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud on the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness round about. Such was the appearance of the glory of the LORD. And when I saw it, I fell upon my face and I heard the voice of one speaking.

God sits enthroned on a firmament resting on the cherubim. All of the symbolism fits that of the ancient near east. The firmament over the living creatures, upon which God sits enthroned, represents the firmament of heaven — the dome of the sky — to which the stars were fixed and over the surface of which the sun and moon traveled according to the ancient near eastern model of the cosmos. If anyone has any doubts that Ezekiel's vision is of God enthroned upon the cherubim, consider what Ezekiel says in the final description in this passage (verse 28): "Such was the appearance of the glory of the LORD." In the very next verse, Ezek 2:1, the voice of the one enthroned says to Ezekiel: "Son of man, stand upon your feet, and I will speak to you." Always, in the Book of Ezekiel, when God speaks to the prophet, he opens by addressing him as "son of man" (*ben adam* in the original Hebrew).

Yet what is the significance of the wheels? As noted in the Anchor Bible's commentary on Ezekiel, wheels before the invention of spokes were small solid disks with large axles. The large axle would have the appearance of a wheel within a wheel. While the wheels of chariots and most other vehicles of Ezekiel's time had spokes, wheeled stands used within the temple often used the small old-fashioned wheels of earlier days. That the rims of the wheels were full of eyes again evokes the supernatural. The wheels are more metaphor than mechanical detail. So the wheels were yet another reference to temple imagery and holiness and were not flying saucers.



Solid wheels with large hubs on a chariot before the invention of spokes (from a panel depicting chariots Ur, Mesopotamia, ca. 2500 BCE).

However, to those who see Ezekiel's vision as a UFO sighting, the phrase "a wheel within a wheel" suggests machinery. The wheel within a wheel is rendered as a "wheel in the middle of a wheel" in the King James Version (KJV) of the Bible, the word in Hebrew being *tavek*, meaning "to sever" or a bisection, in other words "in the center of." In his 1970 book *Chariots of the Gods?* Erich von Daniken wrote (p. 56): "Ezekiel says that each wheel was in the middle of another. An optical illusion! To our present way of thinking what he saw was one of those special vehicles the Americans use in the desert and swampy terrain."

Von Daniken went on to say that the vehicle was possibly a version of an amphibious helicopter. But are these wheels made from some form of rubber, as we would expect in such a vehicle? No. According to Ezekiel's vision they have the appearance of chrysolite (Revised Standard Version or RSV) or beryl (KJV). Chrysolite is a yellow-green form of the mineral olivine and is sometimes used as a gemstone. Beryl is also a gemstone. It is noted for its hardness and comes in the form of green, yellow, pink, or white six-sided prisms. That means that light shines through it. The actual Hebrew word translated as chrysolite or beryl is *tarshiysh*, which can as well mean topaz (another yellow, transparent jewel) or merely a gem. The word is identical to the name of the city of Tarshish in Spain that symbolically stood for the uttermost west, or the ends of the Earth. So the substance called *tarshiysh* meant any exotic gemstone from far away. It seems odd that a machine that might be a form of amphibious helicopter would have wheels made of a yellowish translucent crystal.

Once we take away the "wheels within wheels" reference is there anything in Ezekiel's vision that sounds like alien machinery? Possibly, depending on how certain words are translated. For example, "The creatures' feet are not so much the feet of calves as they are those of bull-calves or young bulls." In Hebrew the word is *egal*. But Hebrew has few words, and those words have many meanings. The ancient Israelites understood which meanings to use from how the word was used in a sentence, but the meanings aren't always clear to us. *Egal* can also mean "round." Since the beings' legs were straight, could it be that the feet were round because the straight legs were actually metal columns with round bases? How can we know whether or not this is the case?

To answer that question we must remember that parts of the description of what Ezekiel saw can't be viewed as separate from the rest of it, and we have to see if the images in the vision relate to anything else in the Bible. If the legs are metal columns, wouldn't we expect the creature's wings to also be like aircraft wings? In fact, they don't seem to be either fixed wings or a picture of a whirling Helicopter propeller. The Hebrew word translated as "wings" is *kanaph*, meaning either a bird wing, an edge, or a flap of clothing.

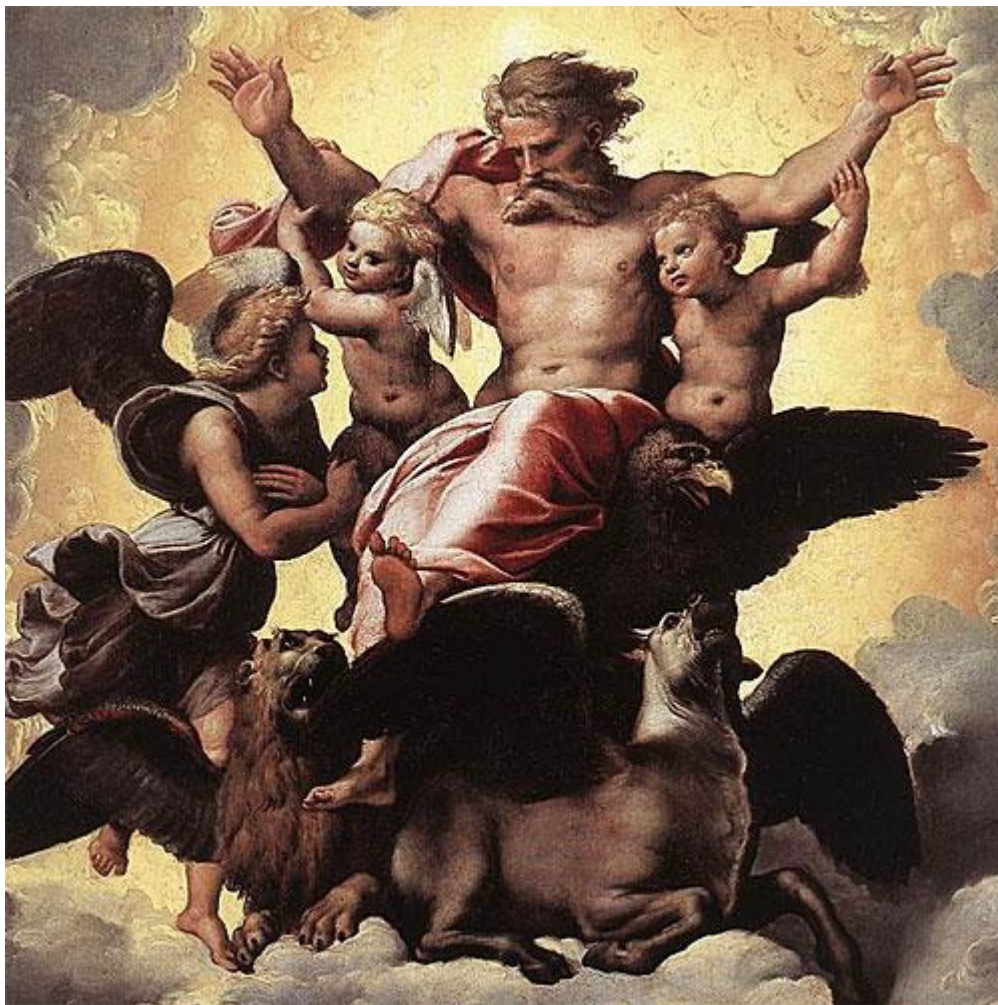
If those who want to see the living creatures as space aliens would read more of Ezekiel they would find an almost identical vision in Ezekiel 10. There the prophet

identifies the beings as cherubim, and says in verse 15 that they were the living beings he saw in his first vision.

Finally, let us consider what Moshe Greenberg said in his commentary on Ezekiel, 1–20, volume 22 of the *Anchor Bible* (p. 58):

Virtually every component of Ezekiel's vision can thus be derived from Israelite tradition supplemented by neighboring iconography — none of the above cited elements of which need have been outside the range of the ordinary Israelite.

Ezekiel's vision, so exotic and otherworldly to us, was something any of his compatriots in exile in Babylon would have understood easily. In fact, it is only when the vision is rendered in translation, rather than in the original Hebrew, coupled with modern readers' unfamiliarity with the iconography of the ancient near east, that makes it possible for us today to mistake angels for spaceships.



The Vision of Ezekiel by Raphael, 1518

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"Listen, buddy, I don't care if you can't find one that fits... helmets are mandatory on this tour!"



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TROUBLE ERUPTS AT THE ANNUAL ROSWELL CENTURY



The following are the results of a FOIA request from Gary Anthony to the MOD for a list of all UFO sightings reported to them within the UK from 2002 to the present. It is a fabulous resource and Gary is to be congratulated. I have to apologise for the poor layout of the files.

2002

Date	Time	Town / Village	County	Occupation of reporter (where known)	Brief Description
01/01/02	22:30	St. Andrews	Fife		A glowing white light that was flashing
09/01/02	23:30	Swansea	West Glamorgan		Green, circular object that was hovering
15/01/02	18:00	Preston			White and red flashing lights, looked like a stop. Hovered, and then moved
19/01/02	02:00	Urmston	Greater Manchester		One spherically shaped object that was moving at speed in a straight line, then disappeared
24/01/02	16:12	Cromer			Eight to nine lights that looked like fireworks, too bright. Were like large fireworks
27/01/02	19:25	Leeds	West Yorkshire		Four small bright, white lights that looked like stars
28/01/02	03:00	Telford	Shropshire		Three triangle shaped object. Looked like a star was brighter than the other two.
06/02/02	19:05	Narborough	Leicestershire		One globe with attachment that was moving
13/02/02	22:19	Enfield	Middlesex		Twenty silver balls with an orange light in the center
14/02/02	21:11	Rock	Shropshire		White lights.
14/02/02	11:05	Corby	Northamptonshire		A silver object was seen, that appeared like two aeroplanes, with streams of light coming out
15/02/02	15:56	Richmond	London		Very odd flashing light on a moving vehicle in the Westminster area.
16/02/02	22:50	Walton-on-Thames	Surrey		One oval disc seen, with green and red lights
22/02/02	22:30	Leven	Fife		One object, a white ball which flashed
23/02/02	21:40	Cirencester	Gloucestershire		One quite bright, semi circle object that was moving
24/02/02	19:00	Newport	Gwent		One large and three smaller triangle shaped objects with flashing lights.
27/02/02		Harrow	Middlesex		The witness just said it was a UFO
28/02/02	22:50	St. Austell	Cornwall		Was a flying triangle - 100ft from the ground. Red lights on the right and blue lights on the left
01/03/02	20:00	Lancaster	Lancashire		Six round shimmery spheres were seen
02/03/02	20:40	Weston-super-Mare	Somerset		Large, numerous lights were seen that looked like a wheel shaped.
05/03/02	21:50	Ripley	Derbyshire		Large triangle shaped object - large red light and in the centre, a group of four smaller lights
07/03/02	19:45	Hornchurch	Essex		Two semi circular, elliptical shapes that were moving with a faint murmur.
13/03/02	20:05	Shotts	Strathclyde		A saucer shaped object with a white light in the center, never seen.
14/03/02	00:30	Leicester	Leicestershire		The object appeared larger than a diamond, looked like a diamond shape. Had a blue light in the center
25/03/02	18:50	Newport-on-Tay	Fife		One bright orange/red cigar shaped object that was moving
31/03/02	02:15	Scunthorpe	Humberside		Two lights were circling around each other, one red and one blue in colour.
04/02		Wisborough Green	Wiltshire		One cylindrical, upright object that was moving
07/04/02	21:30	Walton-on-Thames	Surrey		One round object with red and green lights

07/04/02	01:50	Scawby	Humberside		The witness saw a blue light, then y
08/04/02	22:00	Walton-on-Thames	Surrey		One small disc shaped object with
08/04/02	08:35	Port Talbot	West Glamorgan		One large, round, very bright green
15/04/02	03:30	Nottingham	Nottinghamshire		Three silver triangular objects in a t Police helicopter.
15/04/02	21:50	Worcester	Worcestershire		One big, round, bright star - object upwards.
13/05/02	22:00	Addlestone	Surrey		One very big circular object that wa
15/05/02	02:15	Uckfield	East Sussex		One object with red and green flash
27/05/02	12:45	St John's Wood	London		An object was seen floating up and there were two black dots moving o
30/05/02	01:50	Dumfries			One object that was white and very
31/05/02	03:40	Stamford	Lincolnshire		Object with two white lights on the purple one on the other.
31/05/02	18:30	Woking	Surrey		Sausage shape object that was two different colours.
31/05/02	23:00	Harlow	Essex		Two very large disc type aircraft tha
03/06/02	23:40	Keighley	West Yorkshire		One large object/aircraft that had a East.
04/06/02	03:20	Llansamlet	West Glamorgan		Six objects were seen omitting a br steady speed.
10/06/02	01:30	Carron	Morayshire		One flashing object that had blue, g
22/06/02	01:00	Greenford	Middlesex		The object was an oval shape. Was was rolling through the sky. It was n
14/07/02	18:15		London		One pin point object seen that was reflecting the sunlight. Left a vapou
28/07/02	20:55	Nr Salisbury	Wiltshire		Saw a bright red light. It vanished a
03/08/02					The witness said it looked like there the village after dusk.
10/08/02	23:00				Lights circling and then reversing d
12/08/02	22:00	Hull	East Yorkshire		One purple and white pulsating jell surrounding it. A smaller hazy obje
13/08/02	00:50	Ruislip Manor	Middlesex		Three balls of light, stuck together. still and very bright.
15/08/02	21:55	Milton Keynes	Buckinghamshire		Glowing orange boomerang shape
16/08/02	20:12	Brighton	East Sussex		Big flying object, looked like a glide like a big horse tumbling around.
17/08/02	21:45	Hull	East Yorkshire		Series of neon lights (between neo boomerang shaped, in a V formatio
20/08/02	11:00				Green light coming down from the s
21/08/02	11:00	Fortrose	Highlands		Small torpedo shaped object with a
22/08/02	22:25	Heathfield	East Sussex		Aerial lights seen in the sky.
22/08/02	21:30	Shropham	Norfolk		Aerial lights seen in the sky.
22/08/02	22:25	Heathfield	East Sussex		Anomalous aerial lights were seen.
22/08/02	21:30	Shropham	Norfolk		Anomalous aerial lights were seen.
26/08/02	00:00	Dundee	Tayside		Strange red and white lights seen t beam outside the window for about
29/08/02	00:30	Leicester	Leicestershire		Looked like a shooting star. Had fo
01/09/02	17:00	Leicester	Leicestershire		One object that was golf ball size. T (white), were seen moving in an L f
05/09/02		Wisborough Green	West Sussex		Interesting lights on an equilateral t
10/09/02	23:23	Hamilton	Strathclyde		There were three objects, each of v triangular formation. Seemed to sw
10/09/02	19:45	Tibbermore	Tayside		One small, bright, oval shaped obje closer.
11/09/02	10:40	Kirkcaldy	Fife		There were three hanging silver roo

					bright silver and then faded away.
18/09/02	19:20	Halstead	Essex		Display of three lights in a sort of a circling.
19/09/02	21:20				A circle of twenty lights, were seen minutes.
19/09/02	22:21	Bradford	West Yorkshire		Two circles, one inside the other. Varied as they passed through the
23/09/02	17:40	Huddersfield	West Yorkshire		One silver cigar shaped object that travelling erratically, but remained a
23/09/02	01:00	St John's Wood	London		The object was a triangle shape with round the inside edges of the object
30/09/02	22:00	Exeter	Devon		Object had two neon blue lights at
30/09/02	23:30	Cannock	Staffordshire		The object looked like it was three "a gigantic flying piece of street".
03/10/02	20:20	Exeter	Devon		One ball of red glowing light.
04/10/02	21:30	Everett	USA		Five objects were circling above the low pitch noise. There was a blue a
04/10/02	20:30	Southend	Essex		One white, very small object, very h
17/10/02	02:54	Hull	East Yorkshire	Two Police Officers	Appeared as the size of a 'normal' green, red and white. The object m
23/10/02	07:04	Woodbridge	Suffolk		Large silver triangle which then changed green haze.
25/10/02	01:30	Liverpool	Merseyside		Object looked like an upturned saucer and the dome had a light on top. W
11/02	14:30	Walcott	Lincolnshire		Dark, black torpedo shaped object.
02/11/02	23:00	Gors-goch	Dyfed		Round yellowish light followed by a
02/11/02	22:58	Llanerchymedd	Gwynedd		One light, the size of a football moving
07/11/02	06:30	Wolverhampton	West Midlands		Two sets of lights, with an aircraft in
09/11/02	22:00	Lechlade	Gloucestershire		Series of lights moving in an arc. T
11/11/02	23:00	Nottingham	Nottinghamshire		Eight objects joined into a circle, then joined together again in a circle.
14/11/02	22:12	Saddleworth Moor	Gtr Manchester		Small football size white light, with
15/11/02	12:15	Eyam	Derbyshire		Large flying object, witness had never whatsoever.
15/11/02	21:30	Liverpool	Merseyside		Series of eight to ten lights all tracing
24/11/02	20:00	Bohuntine	Highlands		Round orange shaped object, with (A possible halo).
28/11/02	14:26	Cardiff Docks	South Glamorgan		Two sightings over Cardiff docks. T moving up and down.
09/12/02	17:30	Bishop's Stortford	Hertfordshire		Small round, dull light seen.
10/12/02	18:27	Stoke-on-Trent	Staffordshire		Saw an orange disc shape.
16/12/02	02:35	M62, Near Rothwell	West Yorkshire		A number of objects - quite large, later become a rectangular, vertical light
18/12/02	16:40	Coningsby			Bright oval shape cluster of lights th
19/12/02	06:30	Chaldon	Surrey		Very bright object, with an orange/y
19/12/02	06:30	Notting Hill	London		Very large object, falling like a shoe back. (Could have been a satellite)
19/12/02	06:30	Brighton	East Sussex		Large cylindrical object, white flowing the rear. Some noise, not loud.
19/12/02	06:30	Newton Abbott	Devon		A strange object/light. No sound.
24/12/02	10:39	Aylesbury	Buckinghamshire		Orange object, with a lighter colour head.
28/12/02	20:10	On A31, near Hogsback	Surrey		Four pairs of lights.
29/12/02	00:00	7 miles past Lancaster	Lancashire		On M6. Bright green light about the down to the ground and broke up.
		Solihull	West Midlands		Saw two bright lights. (Seen in 200

		Welwyn Garden City	Hertfordshire		One disc shaped object that was then departed after fifteen seconds
		Television Studio			A black tube appeared in the studio to the ceiling and then disappeared

2003

Date	Time	Town / Village	County	Occupation of reporter (where known)	Brief Description
04/01/03	21:15	St Clares, Near Carmarthen	Dyfed		White object with vivid flashing green
04/01/03	19:20	Near Benbecula Airport		Senior Air Traffic Control Officer	One object with a very bright light and a dimmer light on top of the bright light
06/01/03	15:00	Huddersfield	West Yorkshire		Three silver or white balls in the sky. Travelling in a line.
07/01/03	21:26	Blackpool	Lancashire		One bright white object, hovering and changing shape. Strong blue, green and red sized.
08/01/03	22:00	Coal town of Balgonie	Fife		Looked like a satellite re-entering, not a shooting star.
10/01/03	03:00	Brighton			Two aircraft type objects flying next to each other
10/01/03		Stirling	Scotland		Lights, that were formed in a worm shape
10/01/03	01:00	East Dulwich	London		Oblong in shape with three vertical flashing at the same time.
11/01/03	23:45	Bridgnorth	Salop		Distant object moving from side to side and dim from time to time.
13/01/03	07:40	Dunkeld	Tayside		A large round disc, slightly smaller than a green.
15/01/03	22:10	Cowbridge	South Glamorgan		Three bright lights forming a triangle
19/01/03	18:03	Stone haven	Grampian		Twelve bright lights moving from side to side
25/01/03	19:08	Chester	Cheshire		Two triangular shaped objects, flying in the noise - not like a normal commercial aircraft
29/01/03	18:15	Wolverhampton	West Midlands	Sgt - RAF	Bright light lit up the curtains, and fell from the window. Followed by a loud bang
03/02/03		Leyland	Lancashire		Object seen. Static.
16/02/03	17:20	Birmingham	West Midlands		Like a shooting star falling to the ground
19/02/03	18:30	Huntingdon	Cambridgeshire		A circular bright light - three arms of light and was a red light.
21/02/03	10:30	Penryn	Cornwall		Object, not a plane, not on flight path
25/02/03	23:00	Southfields	London		(Seen for three weeks in Feb 2003) lights around it, that were moving. 1. 2.
		Wellingborough	Northamptonshire		Two large white objects, close together. Going at jet speed.
01/03/03		Northampton	Northamptonshire		Strange object, silver and shaped like a disc
02/03/03	15:54	Pontypridd	Mid-Glamorgan		An object high up in the sky.
11/03/03	21:50	Wellingborough	Northamptonshire		A very large delta shaped formation of lights in the sky.
30/03/03	20:00	Aldershot	Hampshire		Two silver objects that were stationary and the other.
30/03/03		Glastonbury	Somerset		(Seen for six weeks - Feb/March 2003) Massive object, about the size of the moon, very fast.
31/03/03	09:20		London		One craft with three yellow lights on
		Ashburton	Devon		
05/04/03	03:58				
07/04/03	02:30	Falmouth	Cornwall		

					side. Shape was between circular and
11/04/03	22:21	Stansted Airport	Essex	Captain and First Officer of an aircraft	A ball of fire, very bright, with no colour
23/04/03	18:15	Heathrow Airport	London		A ball of light, with no colour, passed
24/04/03		Shepherds Bush	London		Crafts coming down from behind the
05/05/03	18:30				Saw a black triangle flying quite fast in
13/05/03	17:45	Belfast	Northern Ireland		Two objects that looked like stars.
25/05/03	23:00	Sandyford	Lanarkshire		The object was high and bright and
25/05/03	23:05	Kilmacoll	Strathclyde		Large bright light.
25/05/03	23:20	St. Leonards	East Kilbride		Huge white ball that was glowing. (
28/05/03	07:50	Great Yarmouth	Norfolk		The object was saucer shaped.
30/05/03	23:25	Kingston-upon-Hull	Humberside		A bright light in the sky.
31/05/03	21:00	Gateshead	Tyne and Wear		Black orb with five or six tassels un
08/06/03	17:00	Wellingborough	Northamptonshire		White cylindrical object moving ver
09/06/03	06:40	Isleworth	London		Silver object as bright as a star, ch
14/06/03	21:35	Llandrindod Wells	Powys		Very big red light balls hovering. Or
14/06/03	15:39	Walthamstow	London		Cylinder shaped object, with radius
14/06/03	06:00	Girton	Cambridgeshire		Thought it was metal, as light was
20/06/03	08:35	Dunstable	Bedfordshire		Small circular object. Blue and white
21/06/03	16:43	Richmond	London		A string of two sets of two lights.
21/06/03	12:32	Wimbledon	London		A doughnut shaped object was spo
26/06/03	16:28	Melksham	Wiltshire		side was shiny and reflective, and t
28/06/03	23:22	Glastonbury	Somerset		Just said something was seen for t
08/07/03	20:00	Hereford	Herefordshire	MOD Police	The object was a silvery white color
12/07/03	22:05	Rhonda	Mid-Glamorgan		Orange lights moving as a group in
13/07/03		Wellingborough	Northamptonshire		A stationary triangular object was s
13/07/03	20:30	Winterley	Cheshire		30 minutes at quite a height.
14/07/03	21:30		Northamptonshire		Two round objects with legs, which
15/07/03	03:25	Bermondsey	London		Saw a ball of light in the sky.
15/07/03	21:40	Galston on Sea	Norfolk		Appeared like a star, possibly a ball
15/07/03	00:30	Malvern	Worcestershire		Saw the biggest white light that the
20/07/03	23:05	Bridlington	East Yorkshire		across the sky and then disappeared
22/07/03		Bridlington	East Yorkshire		Assumed object to be a shooting st
27/07/03	18:00	Gravesend	Kent		Disc like object, moving in the sky
04/08/03	21:00	Wellingborough	Northamptonshire		direction.
08/08/03	22:35	West Kilbride	Ayrshire		One light was seen. Erratic movement
10/08/03	23:15	West Kilbride	Ayrshire		Moved from the sky like a bomb.
13/08/03	22:55	Maesteg	Mid-Glamorgan		Bright white star like light. Moved fr
14/08/03	18:00	Southfleet	Kent		Silver or white object. Moved at an
					Silver ball up in the sky for about an
					about an hour later.
					A brilliant orange ball of light seen
					A star shaped object. Witness watche
					from the sky like a bomb.
					Could see a few round spheres.
					Roundish, football shaped. Flashing
					and then moved around the object.
					Unusual object, with flashing lights

					from the sun. No trail.
14/08/03	23:57	Worcester			Very bright white light, bigger than completely disappeared.
14/08/03	23:09	Newport	Gwent		Orange circular object seen. Staye
16/08/03	21:00	Amesbury	Wiltshire		Flying saucer shaped object.
17/08/03	23:45	Bonnybridge	Central		Just said a sighting.
19/08/03	23:30	St Seithins	Perthshire		Object with two white lights and on flashing.
21/08/03	14:00	Lincoln	Lincolnshire		The objects were cigar shaped, gre and very slow.
27/08/03	23:00	Worcester	Worcestershire		A helium type balloon, size of a mo north along the line of the A38 over
03/09/03	21:35	Wellingborough	Northamptonshire		An orange ball seen about 2000ft u
04/09/03	23:40	Todmorden	West Yorkshire		There were six lights that split, at o orange and red in colour.
13/09/03	21:40	Heckmondwike	West Yorkshire	Senior Curator/Royal Armouries Museum	Two circular objects, about half the dull yellow.
13/09/03	22:40	Manchester	Gtr Manchester		Round, white lights in the sky.
13/09/03	20:15	Great Yarmouth	Norfolk		Bright as Mars. White light. Dim bri
17/09/03	20:45	Northampton	Northamptonshire		Two small, star size objects, much another two, doing manoeuvres.
17/09/03	21:00	Northolt	London		One object. White brilliant light, flic other stars around it. Moving from s
18/09/03	03:00	Wimbledon	London		Triangular object, copper coloured. then disappeared.
19/09/03	22:30	Ashby De La Launde	Nr Digby, Lincolnshire		The object was spinning whilst stat
22/09/03		Hove	East Sussex		A red unidentified flying object, defi
24/09/03	19:25	Barry	South Glamorgan		Saw an unusual object, falling from Was viewed for five minutes.
24/09/03	20:45	Northampton	Northamptonshire		Saw two pairs of objects, which we in colour.
14/10/03	06:56	Whitney	Oxfordshire		Very large object, lights were flashi
26/10/03	21:06	North Wirral	Merseyside		There were two objects travelling s colour.
05/11/03	16:30	Southbound on the A11		Assistant Secretary/RAF Dependants Fund	Two bright lights in the sky.
17/11/03	02:25	Bromley	Kent	Police Officers/Police helicopter crew	There were 20-30 red flashing light
25/11/03	14:25	Wem	Shropshire		A strange bright orange/red light in
01/12/03		Woodbridge	Suffolk		Looked like an unusual aircraft, but
02/12/03	01:20	Aylesbury	Buckinghamshire		Nothing was seen, but a loud noise
02/12/03	01:30	Thame	Oxfordshire	Editor of a newspaper	A loud noise like a hot air balloon w
17/12/03	19:15	Wokingham	Berkshire		The object was black/dark with ligh about 60 ft across. Very high in the
29/12/03	01:50	Nr Barnton Park	Edinburgh		A steady bright light in the sky rese
		Wigan	Lancashire		(Seen 2003). 17 spaceships. V sha Could see green aliens with cream

2004

Date	Time	Town / Village	County	Occupation of reporter (where known)	Brief
02/01/04	04:30	Ayr	Strathclyde		A square red object, pinkish a
09/01/04	14:00	Market Harborough	Leicestershire		One large black triangular air
09/01/04	22:30	Thaxted	Essex		There was a rumbling sound.
12/01/04	16:30	Huddersfield	West Yorkshire		Strange light that was watche
27/01/04	21:00	Peterborough	Cambridgeshire		Round object with white lights
27/01/04	23:08	Retford	Nottinghamshire		Four dull red lights above the
28/01/04	18:30	Peterborough	Cambridgeshire		One object seen over Retford
28/01/04	18:15	Billingsley	Shropshire		Flashing green lights 1000-50
					Lights in the night sky flying in
04/02/04	06:15	Grosmont	North Yorkshire		Object appeared to be a sound
08/02/04	21:45	Ely	Cambridgeshire		No discernable shape.
11/02/04	21:05	Holbeach	Lincolnshire		Four lights, one brighter than
18/02/04	16:02	Rhyl	Clwyd		Two objects, described as a f
					Large black object over Rhyl.
01/03/04	20:00	Lowestoft	Suffolk		Yellow light in a circular forma
17/03/04	20:20	Edinburgh	Lothian		went out.
					Fast moving bright light.
25/03/04	22:10	Leighton Buzzard	Bedfordshire		Large ball of light. Looked like
					whirring sound.
27/03/04			Sri Lanka		Saw the object at 17:30 Sri La
02/04/04	12:30	West Kilbride	Ayrshire		and was orange and had other
09/04/04	17:57	Greater Chesterford	Essex		One sphere.
09/04/04	19:30	Dimchurch	Kent		60ft long symmetrical object.
					Just said it was an object. Tha
11/04/04	20:43	Seaforth	Merseyside		Saw a UFO, with a cluster of t
14/04/04	10:30	Wellingborough	Northamptonshire		of white light shone upwards a
					A round object was flying ove
14/04/04	20:27	Honley	West Yorkshire		Looked like a Jellyfish flying in
15/04/04	22:20	West Kilbride	Ayrshire		side of the object.
16/04/04	22:40	West Kilbride	Ayrshire		Yellow sphere. Very bright.
16/04/04	22:55	West Kilbride	Ayrshire		Yellow sphere.
					Yellow sphere.
19/04/04	22:10	Filey	North Yorkshire		Two objects travelling together
					south down the coast.
22/04/04	16:30	Goole	East Yorkshire		The object looked like a boom
22/04/04		Queensbury	West Yorkshire		aircraft was circling the object
25/04/04	08:50	Primrose Hill	London		Just said an object.
					The object was a rectangle sh
29/04/04	22:30	Derby	Derbyshire		Four bright lights, plus the out
					round in a clockwise direction
05/05/04	23:10	Kings Lynn	Norfolk		A bright, pulsing-spider lookin
10/05/04	22:45	Storth	Cumbria		
10/05/04	22:47	West Kilbride	Ayrshire		Looked like a bright star and v
					Two yellow spheres, going at
14/05/04	03:10	Leeds	West Yorkshire		A very bright light and also sa
15/05/04		West Kilbride	Ayrshire		
17/05/04		West Kilbride	Ayrshire		Two spheres.
					One sphere.
19/05/04	23:20	West Kilbride	Ayrshire		Large bright sphere.
20/05/04	09:43		Surrey		The witness had seen the obj
20/05/04	11:15	Nelson	Lancashire		seen and no room for humans
					The object was white in colour

20/05/04	13:30	Skipton	North Yorkshire		Looked like a light, transparent
22/05/04	23:50				Two objects were both an orange aircraft without wings and were
25/05/04	17:00	Paignton	Devon		Long single, black cylinder type
25/05/04		West Kilbride	Ayrshire		One sphere.
30/05/04	12:15	West Kilbride	Ayrshire		Five bright spheres flying bes
01/06/04	00:00	Hamilton	Lanarkshire		The object was a bright light a
02/06/04	00:35	Hamilton	Lanarkshire		One object with a bright, white
02/06/04	01:00	Hayes	Middlesex		Object looked like a comet at bigger.
04/06/04	21:07	Coventry	West Midlands		The object was black and silver cloud level.
05/06/04		Wellingborough	Northamptonshire		A black 'UFO' was seen flying
14/06/04	09:30	Rushden	Northamptonshire		A 'UFO' was following an airlin
14/06/04	23:15	Bridgend			One object about 70ft long, w just before the sight was lost.
21/06/04	17:55	Oldham	Greater Manchester		One long, black, cigar shaped
13/07/04	01:00	Winchmore Hill	London		Object was extremely large, o different colours.
14/07/04	23:10	Corby	Northamptonshire		Bright yellow light, low level, a
19/07/04	22:20	Wellford	Berkshire	Press/Newspaper called about reports	Ball of flames with a solid und and then plummeted to earth.
28/07/04		Lynton nr Exmoor	Devon		The object looks like a big wh
31/07/04	22:45	Shepton Mallet	Somerset		Three very strange, bright ora upward direction.
07/08/04	04:30	Chingford	London		Strange looking object, bigger blue, green and yellow lights a
07/08/04		Greenside	Newcastle upon Tyne		Only reported as alien sighting
16/08/04	23:35	West Kilbride	Ayrshire		Five spheres spotted, flying to
29/08/04	03:05	Loughton	Essex		The object was white, hazy an
01/09/04	15:55	Glossop	Derbyshire		Silver disc.
02/09/04	23:50	Deal	Kent		The object was very bright an
04/09/04	14:30	White Hill	East Hampshire		The object was a black cylind One minute the colour was bla
05/09/04	10:24	Birmingham	West Midlands		The object was about 2-3mm appearance.
05/09/04	15:20	Barry	South Glamorgan		The object was a bright light a sound, wings or fuselage.
07/09/04	11:30	Holywell	Flintshire		Two silvery objects, they were vapour trails as they were mo
08/09/04	20:15	Cardiff	South Glamorgan		Large flash of light which turn with trailing smoke behind it.
09/09/04	23:20	Dumfries	Dumfries and Galloway		Spotted strange lights over th
16/09/04	03:50	Iwerne Minster	Dorset		The object looked like a great fire, rapidly moving towards th
20/09/04	22:00	Lutterworth	Leicestershire		Flashing lights.
24/09/04	06:30	Devizes	Wiltshire		Looked like a big ball of fire c coming off of the end of it.
24/09/04	06:30	Newport	Dyfed/South Wales		One object that looked like a c
24/09/04		Swindon	Wiltshire		Saw a big orange disc going f and moving quite slowly.

30/09/04	21:10	Porchester	Hampshire		Just mentioned a sighting.
10/10/04	10:15	Strath Bongo/Glasgow	Strathclyde		The object looked like a wide
10/10/04	22:15	Colchester	Essex		Bright orange/red colour object East to West.
11/10/04	02:35	Preston	Lancashire		The object was a round sphere lights and was very noisy.
12/10/04	20:07	Dumfries	Dumfries & Galloway		Strange lights over the town.
18/10/04		Wimbledon	London		A few objects.
06/11/04	21:25	Driffield	East Yorkshire		The object had three to four d
09/11/04		Warmington	Northants		The object was very bright like hopper! Had flames coming o probably was!
11/11/04	14:15	Ilford	Essex		The object was the size of a r when it became stationary in t
19/11/04	08:02	Douglas	Isle of Man		The object was a silver disc, v twin propeller, Euro Manx aer
26/11/04	21:00	West Kilbride	Ayrshire		Witnessed at least 25 yellow s West Kilbride.
29/11/04	17:15	Wellingborough	Northants		A group of lights were seen a
10/12/04	17:25	Broxburn/Edinburgh	Lothian		Ball of fire, with a tail five to s with a weaker orange tail. Me
15/12/04	08:30	Lisburn/Belfast	County Antrim		Three bright lights moving in t
27/12/04	17:15	Wellingborough	Northants		A 'UFO' was seen, and then it
12/04		Letchworth	Bedfordshire		Two objects flying around the quite slow. (Seen in Decembe
		Leicester	Leicestershire		Three to four discs, that looke Moved in a triangular formatio

2005

Date	Time	Town / Village	County	Occupation of reporter (where known)	Brief
14/01/05	00:24	Leeds	West Yorkshire		Two bright lights, really ro
14/01/05		St Clements	Cornwall		A bright light was seen he
15/01/05	23:15	Stoke-on-Trent	Staffordshire		Just said it was a flying sa
24/01/05	23:10	Portadown	Northern Ireland		There were eighteen light
31/01/05	05:00	Port Talbot	West Glamorgan		Looked like an orange ba spiderish legs.
01/02/05	10:30	Stirling			Black saucer hovering.
02/02/05	17:50	Wellingborough	Northamptonshire		Witnessed a V shaped ob bees.
08/02/05	22:55	Orpington	London		Saw a massive light. The all.
11/02/05		Huntingdon	Cambridgeshire		The witness just said that
15/02/05	01:00	Greenock	Strathclyde		Large yellow conical shap
20/02/05		Leicester	Leicestershire		Object seen in the sky, bu

					meteorite.
20/02/05	10:00	Walthamstow	London		Saw a light in the sky.
20/02/05	09:50	Cardiff	South Glamorgan		Bright blue object, that br disappeared.
20/02/05	09:45	Nr Minehead	Somerset		A 'swishing' sound, like a green light travelling from
20/02/05		Yeovil	Somerset		Bright blue flash in the sk
20/02/05		Sherborne	Dorset		A flash of green/blue colo disintegrating. Looked like
20/02/05	09:45	Barrington	Somerset		Saw an amazing blue ligh
20/02/05		Kenton Mandeville			A blue flash of light going
20/02/05			Somerset		A blue flash in the sky.
20/02/05			Dorset		A flash of blue light was s
20/02/05		East Coker near Yeovil	Somerset		Saw a flying object.
20/02/05		Yeldersley	Derbyshire		The object was missile sh looked reflective, and was
21/02/05		Chivnal	Shropshire		Silver object/ball with a ta
21/02/05	10:00	Teddington	Middlesex		Something was seen in th
21/02/05	09:56	Winkleigh	Devon		Object seen in the sky.
27/02/05		Wokingham	Berkshire		Zoom of light which strea into a silver ball, then a fly
02/05		Briton Ferry	West Glamorgan		Just said something was February 2005).
14/03/05	05:29	Immingham/Grimsby	Humberside		Saw one strange light tha then got brighter again.
20/03/05	19:35		North Wales		Just said saw a UFO.
24/03/05	21:30				The object was star shap dancing around.
31/03/05	21:15	Woking	Surrey		A bright star that moved t
04/04/05		Crosby			Just said late at night with identified.
06/04/05	23:00	West Kilbride	Ayrshire		Saw one yellow sphere th to North East.
07/04/05	23:15	West Kilbride	Ayrshire		Saw three spheres within
11/04/05	00:45	Shrewsbury	Shropshire		A triangular shaped, huge over the southern suburbo
18/04/05	00:30	Matlock	Derbyshire		The witness said that ther beams of light going upwa
21/04/05	06:31		Norfolk		Three objects were seen
22/04/05		Wellingborough	Northants		A UFO/bright light was se (Seen in April 2005). Just moved very slowly sidewa
04/05		Shepton Mallet	Somerset		(Seen in April 2005). Saic greys), sitting on top of it,
04/05		Basildon	Essex		A black cigar shaped obje accelerated to a great sp
14/05/05	21:43		South-East London		
27/05/05	15:15		Kent		Was a small white object,
04/06/05	00:30	St Neots	Cambridgeshire		The object looked like a c an easterly direction. Was
08/06/05	16:45	St Neots	Cambridgeshire		The object looked like a r silver, but was grey to the
23/06/05	15:15	Stapleford	Nottinghamshire		Two extremely bright, rou which was lozenge shape
04/07/05	21:00	Middlesbrough	Cleveland		The object was triangular and had no lights. Moved
11/07/05	23:30	Nailsworth	Gloucestershire		Said there were strange l

07/05					Two UFOs were spotted, sometime in July 2005).
02/08/05	22:15				There were two objects a five times.
03/08/05	00:00	Peacehaven	East Sussex		There were seven red and erratic type of way.
06/08/05	22:00	Rotherham	South Yorkshire		Thin band of cloud with black side to side like search light.
07/08/05	21:30	Kirby	Merseyside	Sergeant/Merseyside Police	There were four oblongs bright lights.
10/08/05	18:30	Walthamstow	London		The object was the size of a car.
11/08/05	02:00	Hurst	Berkshire		The witness didn't see the airship. There was a low light.
13/08/05	17:11	10 miles West of Gatwick	Sussex	Pilot/Air France	One-two metres in length. Not a balloon shape.
21/08/05	11:50	Ripon	North Yorkshire		Round, football shaped object.
23/08/05		North of Derbyshire			There were eight to ten circles in the sky. They were uniform size.
08/05		Lichfield	Staffordshire		The object was circular and of a medium aircraft. (Seen from ground).
08/05			Somerset		The witness said that there were three objects across the sky. (Seen from ground).
03/09/05	17:45	Little Waltham	Essex		The witness saw a cylindrical object black as it was moving across the sky.
04/09/05	22:00	Louth	Lincolnshire		Two orange orbs seen overhead towards the North Sea.
04/09/05	02:35	Wolsingham	Northumbria	Four Police Officers	There was a three dimensional large helicopter. It had green lights.
05/09/05	21:00	Hornchurch	Essex		A 'UFO'.
09/09/05	05:45	Little Hampton	West Sussex		There was one light in the sky disappearing.
10/09/05	22:00	Loughton	Essex		There were three glowing objects.
10/09/05	22:00	Loughton	Essex		Three golden orbs seen in a triangle formation.
10/09/05	22:00	Loughton	Essex		The witness said that there were three objects in the sky. They were orange.
10/09/05	21:00	Loughton	Essex		Three objects were seen in a line.
10/09/05	20:58	Loughton	Essex		Three balls of fire in the sky.
14/09/05	21:15	Lochgelly	Fife		Bright, white lights that were seen in the sky.
14/09/05	21:45	Glenrothes	Fife		Three-six bright, white lights.
14/09/05	23:15	Creiff	Perthshire		Clear white lights, like a torch.
14/09/05	20:50	Letham	Fife		White circles all over the sky.
14/09/05	20:55	Blair Gowrie	Perthshire		Three white circles going in a line.
14/09/05	21:23	Kinross	Perthshire		Two-three bright green lights.
17/09/05	15:58			Pilot	One object, dark brown, triangular.
20/09/05	20:39	Romford	Essex		Four orange lights above the horizon.
10/10/05					Just said had a sighting in the sky.
20/10/05	20:17	Chigwell	Essex		Seven or eight orange glowing lights flashing and looked like planes.
23/10/05		Stapleford Abbots	Essex		Just said had a sighting in the sky.
10/05					A big, long shaped object seen in the sky.
05/11/05	23:00	Cheltenham	Gloucestershire		Three objects seen in the sky.
08/11/05	00:00	Cheltenham	Gloucestershire		Two objects seen.
		Chatteris	Cambridgeshire		Just said that it was a sighting.

		Whitstable	Kent		Strange lights were seen
		Port Talbot	West Glamorgan		Said it looked like a para
		Swansea	West Glamorgan	Coastguard	Said it looked like a para
		Brighton			Sighting seen sometime i
		Slough	Berkshire		The witness said it was lil was going too fast to be c
		Kendal	Cumbria		(Was seen sometime in 2
		Brixton Hill	London		(Was seen sometime in 2
	09:34	Chevithorne	Devon		The object looked like a t
		Cardiff	South Wales		A UFO. (Seen sometime
		Pontyclun	South Wales		A UFO. (Seen sometime
		Ipswich	Suffolk		Just said that it was a 'UF
		Croesyceiliog	Gwent		The witness saw five to s looked a bit like bright sta
		Bagshot	Surrey		Just said a sighting.
					Just said had a UFO sigh

My thanks if you got this far and even if you didn't! See you in a couple of months.

Please note; if you have advised us that you wish to be notified of the next issue, you only have to do it once and don't have to repeat the exercise for each edition.

Stuart