

JOURNAL FÜR UFO-FORSCHUNG No.98, 2'1995

ENGLISH SUMMARY

UFO-OBSERVATIONS (pp. 34-48):

Most of the sightings discussed here were due to well-known stimuli: sky trackers, the planet Venus, signal flares, a helicopter and a hoax. Of special interest is a sighting, by a police officer, of a black small UFO over Düsseldorf on July 16, 1994. The case, which was also presented in a TV show in Germany, involves various witnesses. It is obvious that some object was in the air, but the observers have described it in such varying terms that no identification, not even a identikit-picture of the UFO, is possible. On September 19, 1992, a 29-year-old woman and her 9-year old son watched a UFO with several flashing lights in the night and heard "female laughter". The sighting is classed as "problematic UFO", as too much time has passed since the event to allow a proper investigation.

THE WEDEL-PHOTO (pp. 49-59):

The photo taken by Walter Sch. in 1977 close to Hamburg is well-known (see, for instance, Margaret Sachs' UFO Encyclopedia, p.122). The witness is well known to German UFO investigators since 1972, when he wrote esoteric tracts. He claimed a meeting with angelic Ufonauts in 1979 and 1982 and has even encountered Jesus Christ while riding in a saucer. It had always been the unanimous opinion of all German UFO researchers that Sch., who believes in his space adventures, has fabricated the dubious photo to support his claims. Sch. has produced several other fakes later, including collages of landed space craft and extraterrestrials and views out of the porthole of a flying saucer. It is strange, therefore, that von Ludwiger, head of the German section of MUFON, has now declared the 1977 photo genuine and has said so in several interviews and a book. The author of the article gives information on Sch.'s background and lists all hints that point towards the photo being faked.

BRIEF NOTES (p. 48):

Bruno Mancusi of Payerne, Switzerland, has told the press that 17 UFOs were seen over Switzerland in 1994. Most interesting is an observation of a "flying humanoid" on June 27 at Zurich.

REVIEWS (pp. 59-63):

Richard F. Haines: Project Delta: The book lists UFO cases with two or more objects observed. The cases have not been investigated by competent researchers. The German cases, an early mediaeval miracle tale, a Renaissance sky phenomenon (hundreds were reported in the 16th century, due to meteors and northern lights) and two UFOs observed on November 5, 1990 (long ago identified as re-entry by all European researchers) show the weakness of the book. A collection of stories with little to offer for science.

Curates Pebbles: Watch the Skies: A sociological examination of the UFO phenomenon in the US, fascinating to read. Could be wholeheartedly recommended but for one omission: Concentrating on the US, it misses important European events such as the 1954 humanoid wave completely.

David Hatcher Childress: Extraterrestrial Archaeology: A collection of sightings and photographs of buildings on Mars, Moon, Mercur, Venus, Saturn and other moons and planets as well as UFOs close to heavenly bodies. Lots of good yarns and hardly any analysis.