

UFO OBSERVATIONS (pp. 70 - 80)

Among this issue's UFO observations are the usual stimuli: Jupiter caused a rather complex UFO report with a structured multi-coloured light at Tamm on October 6, 1995; the group of slowly moving oval lights at Urbar on September 1, 1997 was due to a so-called sky tracker, and so were the sightings of oval lights over Leipzig on June 15, 1996. For a second observation at the same date and place which described a circular light with round windows, data are not sufficient to suggest an identification. A toy-ballon is the most likely candidate to explain a semi-circular, red globe moving with a slow speed that was seen at Graal-Müritz on September 27, 1997.

Two reports cannot be identified with any certainty. On October 25, 1995, a 65-year-old teacher observed three flashing lights moving in unison in a circular fashion over Wüllersleben. While a helicopter formation is certainly a possibility, it is far from certain, so the case is classed as a problematic UFO. On December 29, 1995, at 15.55 p.m., a witness spotted three lights arranged in a triangle falling down from an aeroplane at Zeven. There is hardly any conventional candidate for such a sighting, but its strangeness factor is not very high. Again, this is a problematic UFO.

DID WE RECEIVE TECHNOLOGY FROM EXTRATERRESTRIALS?
(pp. 81 - 85)

The author refers to the controversial book by Philip J. Corso who claims that American aviation technology was derived from the saucer that allegedly crashed at Roswell in 1947. However, the development of the stealth bombers can easily be explained by human progress. Especially the fact that stealth is "invisible" to radar suggests a continuation of purely terrestrial research, as this technological advancement is a reaction to terrestrial military threats - extraterrestrials have no need to be invisible to radar.

REGRESSIVE HYPNOSIS AND UFO ABDUCTIONS (pp. 85 - 90)

Based on the work of Jaynes and Orne, the author explains that hypnosis invites subjects to confabulate, invent detail, follow the suggestions of the researcher and can even lead to false memories being implanted in the brain. The abduction research by Hopkins et. al. therefore does no help to solve the UFO question, it muddles it and may even be dangerous for the victims not of UFOs, but of UFO researchers.

A PROBLEM OF HYPNOSIS (p. 90)

The author explains that hypnosis can - in some people - lead to migraine attacks which can then lead to visual hallucinations.

THE STONE DISC HOAX (p. 91)

The story of the stone discs left by extraterrestrials in China is one of the foremost proofs for the ancient astronaut hypothesis. Now David Agamon has admitted to "Fortean Times" that he faked the story of the discovery of the stones by Dr Karyl Robin-Evans.

BRIEF NOTES (pp. 92 - 94)

* Face on Mars: As revealed by recent Mars Surveyor photos, the famous face is just an eroded mountain.

* Argentina: On April 14, 1998, several discs were seen over Bariloche in Argentina, moving away and returning to a mothership. Allegedly, there was a power failure at the time.

* Roswell: Steven H. Schiff, who was instrumental in bringing about the GAO report on Roswell, has died on 25 March 1998.

REVIEWS (pp. 94 - 103)

* Jim Keith: Casebook on the Men in Black - A collection of reports and a discussion of several theories to account for the stories - including an "oriental division" of the CIA.

* John A. Keel: Operation Trojan Horse - Keel's classic book that has triggered much of what is now happening in UFO research. Good speculation and a wealth of data.

* Gray Barker: They knew too much about Flying Saucers - Another classic which enables the reader to gain perspective on the formative years of American Ufology.

* Gregory M. Kanon: The great UFO hoax - Not, as it sounds, a sceptic's book, but the claim that UFOs are a hoax monitored by intelligence services for sinister goals.

* Paul Devereux and Peter Brookesmith: UFOs and Ufology - A thorough and critical examination of the history of Ufology, by the excellent Peter Brookesmith and Paul Devereux who presents recent and new material on earthlights.