

JOURNAL FÜR UFO-FORSCHUNG, No. 122, 2/1999

ENGLISH SUMMARY

UFO OBSERVATIONS (p. 38 - 48)

This issue contains several witness reports of great interest. A "pulsing light" observed on 29 August 1998 over Bad Neuenahr was only a satellite, the photo of a classic flying saucer taken on 13 June 1998 at Bergisch Gladbach, however, appears to be more impressive. The photographer has now admitted it was a hoax by an open university course to check press reaction. One of the rare German instances of a CE II was reported on 3 September 1997 by a Freiburg boy. He had observed a row of spinning lights in the sky, and at the same time the TV screen flickered. Even the next day the silhouette of the UFO was still visible in the sky. As the report lacks testable facts, it was classed as "insufficient data"; yet it can be said that there is the high possibility that the lights were just a sky tracker. Most interesting is a very close encounter (two yards distance to the observers), perceived on 10 June 1993 at Guntersblum, with a rectangular light object which vanished when the witnesses clapped their hands. There is no satisfying explanation but to assume it was an extremely rare natural phenomenon, perhaps related to ball lightning. A brilliant cross with "superstructure" was observed by a family on 2 April 1994 at Hof. It could definitely be identified as Venus, with the superstructure a result of the observation being made by telescope and through a window pane. There is little in a report from 8 February 1997 at Füssen to suggest it was anything else but the well-known fire balloon (orange globe of light, pulsing), yet the witness had a heavy dose of ufology mixed with his report which distorted the account. Two dark ovals with beams of light shining down were spotted on 17 October 1995 at Elgersburg. This might have been a plane or a sky tracker reflection.

A UFO-SIGHTING, A SIGN IN THE HEAVEN AND NATO JETS (p. 49 - 51)

Michael Hesemann, "Germany's most respected researcher" (Hesemann on Hesemann) regularly publishes sensationalised witness reports although they can easily be explained. In this article, the author shows how the exhaust cloud of a jet plane was transformed by Hesemann into a heavenly sign announcing the millennium, how a sky tracker became a flying saucer and a military drone was seen as a flying disc. In an appendix, several "flying saucers" on photos that were just birds are detailed.

FORGETTING AND REPRESSING MEMORIES IS NOT THE SAME (pp. 51 - 52)

The author shows that while traumatic experiences can easily be forgotten and then suddenly remembered again, the ufological concept of a repressed memory that can be found by hypnosis is not known and accepted by modern medical psychologists.

NEW EVIDENCE FOR A HOAX (pp. 52 - 54)

There is one well-known close up of a Plejadian spaceship that Billy Meier took and which his supporters accept as genuine. A Swiss researcher, Roger Eglin, has been able to prove that this craft is not only small, but consists of several silvery sprayed flower pot supports and shelve holders that can be bought in every supermarket. This means that there is definite proof for yet another of Meier's many hoaxes.

PROJECT SETI (pp. 55 - 56)

Everybody can now participate in SETI by allocating computer time of his or her PC to the search. More information on <http://setiathome.ssl.berkeley.edu/>

ROSWELL NEWS (pp. 56 - 57)

It has sometimes been said that press officer Walter Haut had had the press release about a flying disc dictated to him by Major Blanchard. Haut has now stated in the International UFO Museum's newsletter that he wrote the release without ever having seen the "disc" and all by his own. Meanwhile, internal conflicts at the Museum continue, and several members have been fired.

NEW UFO DETECTOR (pp. 57 - 59)

Description of a magnetic field detector which might be of use while researching close encounter cases.

UFOS AND EVERYDAY LIFE (P. 59 - 60)

New examples of how flying saucers and alien faces crop up in commercials and ads.

REVIEWS (pp. 60 - 66)

Jerome Clark: The UFO Book: A compendium with the most important entries from Clark's three volume UFO encyclopaedia. Greatly recommended for scope and depth of treatment.