

JOURNAL FÜR UFO-FORSCHUNG, No. 171, 3/2007

ENGLISH SUMMARY

UFO-OBSERVATIONS (pp. 66-69)

The three observations in this issue were all caused by a now fashionable stimulus, the so-called silent firework, fire balloons or Thai sky lanterns launched in unison. On 20 May 2007, a mother and her son spotted and photographed 8 to 10 orange balls of light at Winnweiler, on 14 April 2007, a couple and their children saw a flying lantern or hot air balloon with fire underneath at Hünfelden (a single fire balloon), finally, on 19 May 2007, seven to ten strange flickering lights appeared over Remseck.

ADDITIONAL REPORTS (pp. 70-71)

Here we briefly summarize cases received by other organisations, mainly sightings of so called silent fireworks.

AN INTERVIEW WITH ROBERTO PINOTTI (pp. 72-73)

Roberto Pinotti started to become interested in strange phenomena because his grandmother's hobby was parapsychology. In 1965, Pinotti and other Italian researchers founded a UFO group which, from initial scepticism, moved to belief in the ETH. Pinotti thinks that, once you have eliminated the explanations that do not work, you are left with the ETH, as the psycho-social hypotheses fails to explain the UFO problem. And although Pinotti thinks abductions are real, he doubts the large number of incidents quoted by American researchers and attributes their claims to sinister motives by cover-up agents. He is also interested in ancient astronauts and works on a book about vimanas.

BRIEF NOTES (pp. 69, 80)

MALWARE: Emails claiming to include information of a UFO crash in Berlin which were received by several persons included an EXE file which spies on computer passwords!

SILENT FIREWORK AT LAKE CONSTANCE?: On July 1, 2006, several Kreuzlingen witnesses saw a fleet of 100 UFOs which moved from north to south. Another possible case of a silent firework.

UFOLOGY FOR A NEW CENTURY (pp. 81-86)

Nick Pope, the former officer at the British MOD's "UFO desk", here outlines his current thinking on UFOs and UFOlogy. He is highly critical of claims of cover-ups, and misses respect for other points of view within the ufological community. He also notes a lack of progress in the field over the last 30 years, and thinks this is largely due to the blinkers ufologists wear – they sort out reports that do not fit preconceived ideas, and, especially in the US and the UK, are largely unaware of research that takes place outside of the English language.

REVIEWS (pp. 87-96)

Randy Koppang: *Camouflage Through Limited Disclosure* – A book on the claim that we have back-engineered alien craft, with all, the usual suspects.

Bill Rose & Tony Buttler: *Flying Saucer Aircraft* – A collection of circular planes through the history of aviation with many interesting, even grotesque, examples.

JOURNAL OF UFO STUDIES VOL. 9 – A new issue of the flagship of scientific ufology, with contributions on alien abduction experiencers, UFO photos (Richard Haines thinks the Rudi Nagora-hoax is really an unidentified!), psychological studies of UFO perception, the ISS UFOs (identifying them as ice particles), and angel hair.