

UFO-OBSERVATIONS (pp. 34-45)

In May 1955, a young man spotted a dark, disc-like flying object over Mühlacker. It came over the horizon, then sped away. As no normal stimulus can explain the report, it is classed as Problematic UFO.

On several photos taken on 13 August 2007 of Pfronten, a disc-like bright object can be seen – however, it is not a UFO, but a lens flare.

A very strange story comes from a German tourist couple, who, while driving in the night of 30 January 1984 between Orlando and Miami, saw a white whirling cloud accompany their car. They felt strange, noticed the highway looked special, it had neither any other traffic nor a shoulder, they were overtaken by a strange car etc., and noticed a several hours time loss when they finally arrived. While the cloud may have been a sky tracker reflection, the rest of the experience remains unexplained.

A star-like object seen on 25 October 2007 over Essen was definitely identified as Jupiter.

On 11 January 2008, pupils of a Gadebusch school observed a smoke trail that suddenly lit up in the morning, and took several photos with their mobiles. Several possibilities are discussed, among them a con-trail lighted by the rising sun or smoke from a chimney. However, none of these explanations seem to apply to what was seen and photographed, so the case is classed as Problematic UFO. During the fuss created by this case, a woman reported that in November 2007 she had seen something similar, but in the night, at Wittenberge. She observed “something like a tornado” which approached her fast and “resembled a fireball at the lower end.” This is also classed as Problematic UFO.

THE MIMETIC HYPOTHESIS SCIENTIFICALLY EXAMINED (pp. 46-55)

The hypothesis, first offered by Jacques Vallee, then taken up in Germany by Dr Johannes Fiebag, that UFOs mimic what experiencers expect to see, yet reveal themselves as alien technology through details that will not fit the times, is analysed in this paper according to the parameters of what constitutes science. The author shows that the mimetic hypothesis lacks major parameters of science: it is not testable, not falsifiable, is neither internally nor externally consistent, and constantly uses deduction, and little induction, to arrive at what it says. These ideas might be true, but they are not science.

SCIENCE OF THE UFOs, PART 4 (pp. 56-61)

In the last part of his article, Richard Hall addresses a few prejudices against ufology, such as only naive observers see UFOs, or those who report UFOs do so from a religious impulse to be saved, and supplies a reading list of what he thinks are good UFO books.

BRIEF NOTES (p. 52)

The first project commonly carried out by the German UFO groups MUFON-CES, GEP, and DEGUFU; will be a social science analyses of the Roswell crash.

REVIEWS (pp. 63-64)

No English language books are reviewed in this issue.