

UFO-OBSERVATION WAVE 2007/2008 – PART ONE (pp. 98-113)

Germany is in the middle of the most extraordinary UFO wave it has ever experienced, all due to sightings of Thai sky lanterns. In this first part of an overview article, Hans-Werner Peiniger describes the reports received from October to December 2007: The “UFOs” come single and in fleets, drift in (seemingly intelligent) formation, individual lanterns in a group can fly in different directions, and their speed can appear tremendous.

MITCHELL AND UFOS (pp. 114-115)

Former astronaut Edgar Mitchell went public once more this year with his claim that UFOs are real and piloted by extraterrestrials. A look into his autobiography, *Ways of the Explorer*, 1997, shows that, although he lived in Roswell at the time, he had no real knowledge of a UFO crash, but that all he says today is just what he read in books about the subject. Interesting, though, is the fact that rumours about crashed spacecraft went around in Roswell already in 1946 – due to the presence of rocket pioneer Robert Goddard.

“A GLOBAL PHENOMENON NEEDS TO BE STUDIED GLOBALLY“ (pp. 116-122)

An interview with Michael Hesemann, Germany’s most well-known ufologist., on why he believes in extraterrestrial UFOs, why he abandoned ufology for books on Catholic relics, what he thinks of skeptics, and why he may return to ufology, and the cases he finds most convincing (Carlos Diaz, the Mexican contactee, and Ruwa. Zimbabwe).

WORLD MYSTERY FORUM 2008 (pp. 123-125)

The World Mystery Forum 2008, organized by Erich von Däniken’s secretary Ulrich Dopatka, was held in Basle. The many interesting speakers included Günter Niemtz (on his faster-than-light-experiments), Lucius Wertmüller (on paranormal surgeons), Chandra Wickramasinghe (on panspermia), Kathryn Denning (on how limited our knowledge is), Daniel Ebner (who has discovered a primal code in plants), and Louis L. Navia, among many others. A very good, perfectly organized event.

BRIEF NOTES (pp. 126-127)

Obituary: Ernst Meckelburg: This well-known German writer on the paranormal has died, aged 81.

Flying Saucers Over Bavaria: In September 1954, a high-flying plane released a load of balloons which exploded and set free spiders over Landshut – this appears to be the only German case related to the angel hair phenomenon

Sovereignty and the UFOs: This article in *Political Theory* 4/2008 argues that UFOs are not being investigated because they pose a threat to man-made governments. The author seems to assume that a true UFO is an extraterrestrial craft.

REVIEWS (p. 128)

Jeffrey Bennett: Beyond UFOs: The Search for Extraterrestrial Life and Its Astonishing Implications for Our Future – An optimistic view about the likelihood of extraterrestrial life, not a UFO book as such. Much of interest, but not unique.