

# **JOURNAL FÜR UFO-FORSCHUNG, No. 183, 3/2009**

## **ENGLISH SUMMARY**

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### **UFO OBSERVATIONS (pp.66-69)**

On 21 April 2009, a Berlin-Wedding man took a photo on which he later discovered a strange object – most likely a bird or a model plane.

In July 2009, a Schöneberg man found “inexplicable traces” on his garden green – three rings in a triangular formation which he took to be UFO landing traces. They were, however, the well known fairy rings, a fungus infection of grass.

A gigantic fireball observed near Bad Breisig on 15 August 2009 was identified as a bolide.

A whole squadron of lights appeared over Pillig on 15 August 2009 – these red lights were identified as Chinese lanterns.

### **GLORY AND MISERY WITH THE FIRE BALLOONS (pp. 70-73)**

André Kramer explains that the wave of Chinese lantern sightings in the last few years gives ufologists of different feathers a chance to cooperate, but also sees the possibility that real sightings might be too easily dismissed or that ufologists will get bored from listing the multitude of reports. Yet it is, he stresses, of greatest importance to log all reports, not just those that are deemed “unidentified” – if you do not know your IFOs, how can you find UFOs?

### **FALSE MEMORIES AND UFO ABDUCTIONS (pp. 74-80)**

Thomas Bullard’s study of the false memory syndrome and UFO abductions, outlining similarities and pointing out differences, taken from the Journal of UFO Studies 8, 2003, part 3.

### **PSYCHOLOGY OF PERCEPTION AND UFO SIGHTINGS (pp. 81-93)**

Hans-Werner Peiniger outlines the result of several studies by GEP, CENAP, as well as others, regarding quantified data on the perception of stimuli. In 1988, GEP, CENAP and others showed a colour transparency of a fire balloon to different audiences and had them describe and draw what they had seen. The results were analysed by Alexander Keul. He found that roughly a third of the descriptions and drawings were accurate, yet many contained false details. If you only have a single witness, and you do not know how accurately he reports, the story is almost worthless. Then there are several studies regarding size estimates (witnesses were asked to judge the size of sun and moon at outstretched hand). There again, many witnesses quite over judged the size of these celestial bodies: the brighter the object, the larger it is judged to be.

### **BRIEF NOTES (p. 94, 96)**

John A. Keel, famous pioneer of fortean UFO studies, died on 3 July 2009.

Richard Hall dead – Another pioneer, this time of the nuts-and-bolts-school, died on 17 July 2009.