

JOURNAL FÜR UFO-FORSCHUNG, No. 227, 5/2016

ENGLISH SUMMARY

UFO-OBSERVATIONS (pp. 130–135)

Again, most “observations” are photo cases, some where the “UFO” has not been observed but just later been noted on a photo. A man installed a wildlife camera trap in his garden in Opperthausen to observe his guinea pigs and pet rabbits. On photos taken on 14 June 2016 he thought he saw a large brilliant spot illuminating the garden and sending light beams to earth while his pets reacted with panic. However, the image is consistent with an insect or spider close to the lens. On 28 August 2016, a woman watching a thunderstorm over Düsseldorf-Mörsenbroich noticed a red glow in the clouds which remained for some time, and took a photo of it; this was identified as the reflection of a light beam on the underside of a cloud. The daughter of this witness, while on her way home, observed several white patches of light circling in the clouds over Düsseldorf-Unterrath on 8 September 2016. These were obviously the reflection of a sky tracker on the clouds. On a flight from Dresden to Majorca on 13 May 2016, a witness took several pictures, on one of which she later discovered a structured craft. This was identified as a spotlight pole on Dresden airport! A photo snapped on 24 December 2015 in Berlin shows a typical lens flare.

FROM OUR INCOMING MAIL (p. 135–136)

Sometimes, people ask the GEP for their opinion on material they have found in the internet. In this case, a YouTube video allegedly shows a strange craft flying through the air. The sender was convinced it showed something anomalous as he could not find any “heat signature” as he should have done, since he was an engineer. However, it is most likely just an insect flying through the frame.

WERNER WALTER DEAD (pp. 137–140)

A few personal memories of Werner Walter, the pioneer German UFO researcher who died, on 7 November 2016, aged 59, by Hans-Werner Peiniger. Werner Walter became interested in UFOs during the wave of 1973, when he observed a strange sky phenomenon over his native Mannheim. He joined the contactee group DUIST, but soon grew disillusioned and formed his own research group CENAP which later was a part of the sceptical movement in Germany. In later years, his work became increasingly polemical, but this should not detract from the fact that he was one of the pioneers of serious UFO research in Germany.

JOHN MARTINS SIGHING – THE FIRST FLYING SAUCER? (pp. 141–144)

When farmer John Martin observed “a strange phenomenon” in 1878 he said it appeared to be “about the size of a large saucer”. However, far from being a description of its shape, this was a common size comparison of the time, for example in referring to a sea-serpent’s eyes – therefore, in contrast to what Vallée, Keyhoe, and other UFO authors have claimed, the John Martin case is not the first mention of a “flying saucer”.

BRIEF NOTES (p. 144)

A new UFO study group, IAUAPR, has been founded by Ted Roe to internationally research UFO reports. He plans a peer-reviewed magazine with scientific content.

“1954 – THE YEAR OF THE SAUCERS” IN GERMANY – SOME ADDITIONS (pp. 145–151)

From their own files, André Kramer and Ha-We Peiniger add further German reports from 1954 to the two instalments already printed, and Peiniger finally gives a comprehensive table of all claimed sightings in 1954 in Germany.

REVIEWS (pp. 153–160)

No English language books are reviewed in this issue.