

# JOURNAL FÜR UFO-FORSCHUNG, No. 258, 6/2021

## ENGLISH SUMMARY

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### **UFO OBSERVATION (pp. 162–165)**

On 28 June 2020, the witness took a photo of a cloud formation over Frankfurt on which she later discovered a bizarre black, worm-like thing hanging from the clouds. The author discusses several possible explanations, a worm-shaped balloon, a caterpillar hanging from the tree in the foreground, a tornado funnel, an insect flying vertically, and a tree seed. A tornado tunnel can be ruled out, while the other options do not completely fit the image taken. The photo is therefore classed as a PROBLEMATIC UFO case

### **RECENT CASES – AN OVERVIEW (pp. 165–173)**

All but the first of these recent sightings are photographic cases, and all have IFO identification. A bright object like a star which moved over the sky at Wutha on 24 June 2021 was correlated with the trajectory of a weather balloon. Images taken on 19 June 2021 at Hörstel are clearly of a bird or insect, as is the image photographed on 21 June 2021 at Dornburg-Camburg. Foil balloons in the form of letters or numbers were observed and photographed as UFOs on 21 August 2021 in Berlin and on 2 September 2021 at Hallstadt. Several fairground balloons, some still assembled in a large bundle, are what a man photographed on 3 September 2021 at Hamlin. The witness believed the objects did not move, but an overlay of different of his images show they did. The large UFO observed and photographed as a dark oblong shape on 17 October 2021 at Adelmansfelden was the airship of the German factory Trigema, while the alleged flying saucer snapped on 18 May 2019 over Würzburg was a hoax, produced with a camera app.

### **SOME IDEAS CONCERNING UFOs AND IFOs (pp. 174–180)**

Sceptics often claim that all UFOs could be IFOs, as eyewitness reports are intrinsically unreliable. If this is true, why is it we can identify IFO cases? The author thinks that we can spot IFOs because they can be calibrated against real objects – we know how the stimulus looks and are able to discern it in the eyewitness reports. Therefore we can judge how reliable a report is. We do not know what a UFO looks like, so we never have a guarantee that a report on a UFO is reliable. The idea that all UFOs are actually IFOs we do not recognize due to distortions in eyewitness reports is a logical answer to the UFO dilemma.

### **“CONTACT INITIATIVE” (p. 180–187)**

As the American Forces have now officially admitted that UFOs exist, says the author, we must move a step onward. He suggests a “Contact Initiative”, a crowd-sourced app-based automatic alarm system with many representatives distributed over a certain area which will ultimately lead to open radio contact with UFOs. The app warns when a UFO is close, and an automatic recording programme is started. People involved can also go outside and take videos, and amateur radio operators can attempt communication.

### **“CONTACT INITIATIVE” – A COMMENT (pp. 187)**

Josef Garcia, an amateur radio operator himself, points out some weak aspects of the proposal, first the limitations in the frequencies that are at the disposal of radio operators, second a system of rewards for people who report good UFO sightings, which may lead to hoaxes, and as third factor the fact that many military craft do not have transponders (f.e. drones) and so may show up as UFOs in the app. It is certain however, that if UFOs exist, such automatic registration systems are the only way to investigate them.

### **BRIEF NOTES (p. 188)**

A popular German TV talk show highlighted a Tim Beckley podcast on “Exploring the Bizarre”.

### **BOOK REVIEWS (pp. 188–192)**

No English language books are reviewed in this issue.