

A CLASSIC REPEATER WITNESS

Jenny Randles

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ROY WILKINSON of Brightlingsea, Essex, submitted a most intriguing set of data to the *Daily Express* UFO Bureau. Since he lived in a part of the country not well covered by investigators and since our Essex members were in any event already more than busy, I decided to find out more myself.

Mr. Wilkinson has been very helpful, answering all my questions fully, and also supplying voluminous notes taken at the time, site drawings and sketches of the objects seen.

It might seem odd that Mr. Wilkinson should do this. However, he has had an interest in the paranormal since childhood, when he had several experiences that I shall refer to later. These triggered his interest in psychic phenomena, although he has always maintained an open-minded and level-headed approach to such matters. He had, nevertheless, given almost no thought to UFOs until his first sighting in 1971. Following this he decided to keep a record of anything that occurred, and has since come to view the two as wholly related.

His current viewpoint may be best summarised by himself:

"I think that when studying UFO phenomena one must look into all phenomena, i.e. ancient, modern, myth and religion etc. All appear to be pieces of a giant jigsaw puzzle, but there appears to be one piece missing. I often wonder if that final piece is waiting just around the corner, or if somebody has found it and does not realise it... I find it difficult to establish fact from fiction, with such a vast amount of phenomena around us it is difficult to say what is normal... I find it very hard to believe that over all the thousands of years during which UFOs have been recorded that superior people from another world, or worlds, have not made contact with man. It is a very long way to come from outer space just to observe earth and not make contact... If they were from another dimension they could have been here all the time."

At the foot of Hythe Hill, Colchester

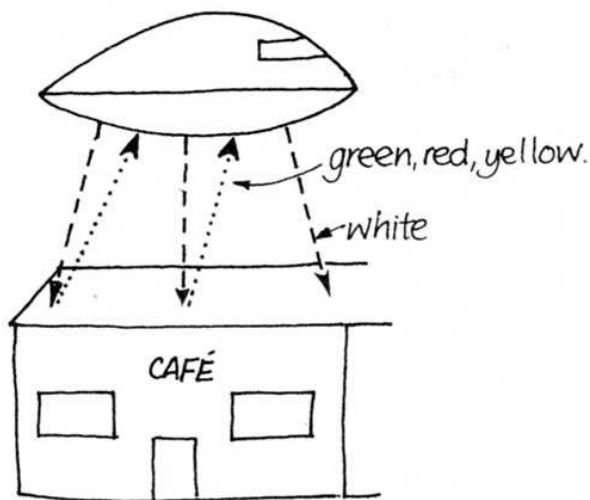
Roy's first UFO encounter took place on Wednesday, November 10, 1971 (note the recurrence of Wednesdays in the reports that follow). It was a clear night with many stars.

At about 8.25 p.m. he was walking up Hythe Hill in Colchester, Essex close to the factory where he works. He became aware of an object hovering to his right over the top of a café at the bottom of the

hill. He stopped in the doorway of a betting shop and looked down towards the café. He had a very clear view.

At first all that could be seen was a brilliant white ball, but then it changed to green, red, yellow and then back to white. When it shone the other colours, the shape of the object was clearly seen.

It was shaped like a rounded dome, with the top surface slightly more curved than the bottom. The dark surface of the object was broken only by a "window" in the front. This was only visible when the red and yellow lights were in evidence. It was narrow and rectangular, seemingly about four feet by two feet, although it appeared to be wrapped around the front of the object so that only part of it was in view. It gave off a yellowish, candle-like light that was milkish or opaque. It was impossible to see inside.



November 10, 1971, as sketched by Roy Wilkinson

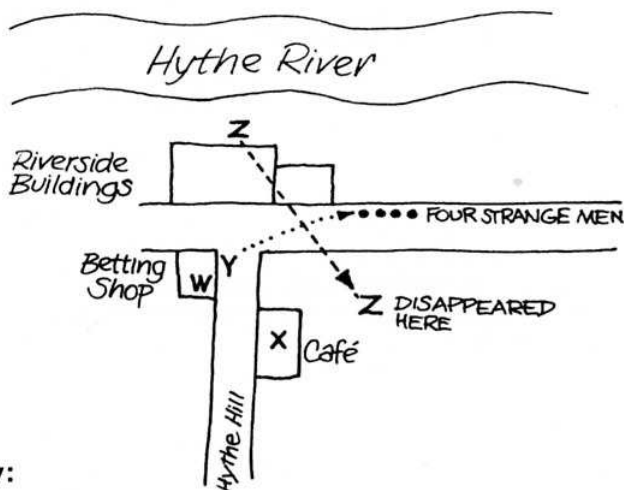
Roy was looking East South East towards this strange object. It appeared to be hovering about 30-40 feet above the café rooftop, and was tilted away slightly to reveal a little of the smooth underside. The white light shone down brightly on to the rooftop, but the other colours did not. They seemed to be reflected upwards to the craft, illuminating it.

As he gazed on in astonishment, the colour change occurred five times, going white — green — red — yellow — white. In all this took about five minutes, he believes. Then suddenly it was gone, just as quickly as it had seemed to appear.

Judging by the size of the café roof, he would

estimate the object's width to be 20 feet.

Regardless of how odd this sighting had been, Roy says that the most peculiar feature of it occurred afterwards. He found himself walking away very puzzled as to why there was nobody else on the hill. The area is usually quite busy at that time of night, but there was nothing about at all. Then as he turned the corner at the top of the hill it was, as he says "... like opening a door and entering a party" — suddenly the eerie silence was broken by cars, noise, and people and everything was normal.



Key:

November 10, 1971

W: Position of witness, X: UFO hovered.

January 25, 1972

Y: Position, and path, of witness. Z: UFO course.

This feeling of "time standing still," or total isolation from the real world is a common feature of close encounters. It occurred, for example, in the Fencehouses, County Durham CE3 (FSR Vol. 22, No.6). It is undoubtedly a significant factor, relevant to the precise nature of the experience that is undergone.

On/off ring near Colchester

The following Wednesday, at almost exactly the same time, Roy saw something again. It was 8.28p.m. and he was walking towards Colchester Lathe Company. The factory had not yet started up. suddenly an object appeared directly over his head. It was low (estimated at 100 feet) and appeared simply as a circle of white light on the underside rim. This was continually going on and off, giving the impression of rotation. Frightened, he ran a hundred yards or so the factory gate and immediately confronted a friend, Mr. D Sencier. Both then went outside and saw the object, now in the South South West. It hovered for a few moments as they watched it and then moved away slowly to the West, disappearing out of sight behind the buildings of the Moler Works.

Down by the river

On Tuesday, January 25, 1972, the sky was clear with some stars. At 8.21 p.m. Roy was again walking to work and passing the betting shop on Hythe Hill (the scene of his first sighting). This time he was to have an even closer encounter.

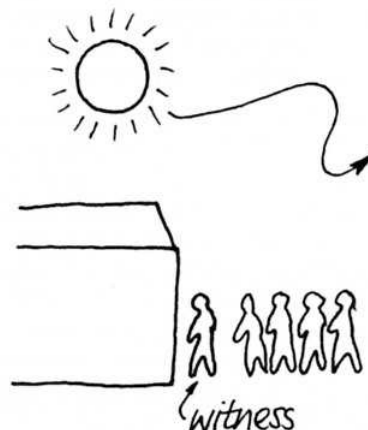
He first observed a bright ball of white light over the River ahead of him (in the North, North East). It moved very slowly on an almost southerly course at a height of about 80 feet. Spotting four men standing by the riverside buildings, looking out over the river, he ran across to join them. The huge light, now appearing to be 10 feet in diameter passed directly overhead on a slow, undulating course. He likens it to the way that a snake moves.

As it passed directly overhead the air around him and the ground under his feet seemed to become alive with a feeling of electricity. It was like receiving a mild electric shock, tingling and very noticeable. The object proceeded to the South, the feeling vanished, and then the object suddenly disappeared. One minute it was there. The next minute it had gone.

The whole incident had taken no more than about three minutes, and caught up by it all he had been half gazing at the object and half at his surroundings. He had not spoken to the men, nor had they acknowledged to him that they could see the object (although it appears they could hardly have missed it) Oddly they did not speak to one another either. They simply stood by the wall and were transfixed, like statues. After the object had gone he turned to them, but they had vanished. There was no sign of them anywhere. Obviously, he could have been too intent on the object in the sky to have seen them go, but he says that he was within inches of them and feels positive he would have seen or heard something of their departure.

Since he took so little note of them he cannot describe them very well. He feels that they wore some kind of overall, but he is not sure, and they seemed to be carrying a workman's shoulder bag. They looked exactly like normal people.

During this encounter, as with his first, Roy says he felt an acute sensation of being all alone. The



January 25, 1972, incident as sketched by witness

whole area seemed motionless and without the normality it should have had.

Repeated Performance

Throughout the rest of 1972 he saw numerous lights high in the sky, usually yellowy in colour. These performed odd manoeuvres such as zig-zags, and he logged them all. No other close encounters took place.

Then almost a year after his initial sighting, on Wednesday November 15, 1972, he saw another low level object.

On this occasion he was further away from his place of work, walking along Avonway at about 8.10 p.m. The sky was clear with a few scattered clouds. The object was first seen as a bright yellow light, again moving alongside him. It seemed to be travelling about 30 ft above the high tension power lines that run alongside the road. It was silent, and moving so slowly that he was overtaking it as he walked.

At this point he stopped for a better look. The object looked like a round ball about 20 ft in diameter. It changed from yellow to a very bright white, speeded up and climbed a little, being lost to sight, inside a moment or two, in cloud. He felt nothing unusual on this occasion.

The following Wednesday, November 22, 1972 it was there again! He was once more walking along Avonway, at about 8.00 p.m. This time the sky was cloudless and many stars were visible.

He first observed a dim yellow light moving west, but then it altered course and once more flew over the power lines. It then stopped and changed from dim to bright and then it started to move to the South West along the power lines. He was able to

keep pace with it as he walked along for about 300 yards. He stopped walking again and watched it accelerate away, flashing on/off from yellow to white. It did this for three minutes until it was lost to view.

This was the last sighting (as at July 1978) that he can call a "close encounter" although he has seen many unknown lights since then. The strangest was perhaps on March 16, 1973, when at 8.45 p.m. he saw a half circle of lights over the Moler works. There was one bright yellow light and several smaller red, green and blue lights. It moved in an erratic stop-start motion.

Other Paranormal Phenomena

Considering his background Roy says that he must be regarded as psychic, as he has had many odd experiences. Often, for example, he is able to pick up vibrations from a place that he visits and get "good or "bad" feelings, some of which could be borne out by researching the history.

He recalls specifically one instance when he was 17. It was before he began to delve into any kind of paranormal phenomena. He was walking into Colchester town centre to meet some friends, and decided to take a short cut along an alleyway that runs next the local church. This first crosses the railway line and then becomes very narrow (with just enough room to allow two people to squeeze past one another). At this point there is a very high garden fence on one side and an eight foot high wall on the other.

It was November (note how significant this month

Fortean Times

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seems to be to him) and cold and dark. The time was about 7.00 p.m. There were absolutely no lights along the alleyway, and he was hastening his step to get through to meet his friends. Suddenly, ahead of him, he saw a light, looking exactly like a cigarette glowing in the dark. Thinking it was someone walking towards him he thought no more of it. Presently he heard the sound of footsteps.

As the light approached he could not make out a figure, but the light came so close to his face that it almost touched him. It was simply a reddish glow. Instinctively he fell back against the wall, but he felt nothing brush past him — no sensation at all. He also noticed that the footsteps had stopped. Then he heard a sound that was like someone turning round. He looked back but there was absolutely nothing there. He is positive that there is no way that anyone could have scaled the wall in one go

There then followed what appears to be a blackout. He recalls nothing of the next few seconds and then, suddenly, he was standing at the end of the alleyway (just a few yards away) but he was completely soaked from head to foot. His clothes were dripping wet, as if he had jumped into a bath fully dressed! He has no recollection of how this happened. If there was a time lapse it was too short to be noticed. On later research he found nothing unusual about the alleyway or church.

This case, then, gives us a fascinating look into the background of a "repeater" witness. One can see that the UFO experiences are but a part of his overall paranormal history. He appears to possess a special sensitivity towards something. He views it as another dimension. That may be so. However, it is clear that if we could understand what it was that his psychological make-up possesses, that enables him to "read the vibrations" of an area, or pick up the presence of the alley-walker by the church, then it would give us an insight into the reason why some people seem so "gifted." Why do some people see UFOs frequently, and often experience close encounters with all their bizarre attributes? Why do others see nothing at all in a whole lifetime? These, I believe, are crucial questions. Ones upon which the solution to the whole UFO mystery may depend.

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE...

THIRTY YEARS AFTER KENNETH ARNOLD

*Dr. Pierre Guerin
(member of GEPAN)*

MORE INTERESTING NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Gordon Creighton

LIFE IN THE COSMOS *(Translated from the Russian by Gordon Creighton)*

SEVEN SCARED WITNESSES AND A HUMANOID

Verga Maurizio

PHENOMENON OVER SOUTH URAL

Vladimir V. Rubtsov

LATE NEWS ITEM...

Sir Eric Gairy, Prime Minister of Grenada, has been ousted from office in a coup by the Grenadan Opposition; a move made easier by the fact that the P.M. was in New York. (Awaiting the outcome of his UFO initiative?) Whether or not the impetus of that initiative will be maintained, now time alone will tell. (See page 5)

CORRECTION PLEASE, BUFORA

In its issue Vol. 8, No. 1, of 1979, *Bufora Journal* carried an item entitled "Machynlleth 'Jellentities'" which was a re-written version of the article "Jelly-like entities at Machynlleth" which appeared in FSR Vol. 24, No. 4, and which was an edited version of Mr. Andrew Collins' text. It is not clear why the investigator chose to offer a carbon copy of his text to *Bufora Journal* as he had been told the article would appear in *Flying Saucer Review*. The main point at issue, however, is that *Bufora Journal* attributed the copyright to Mr. Collins when it was not his in the first place. It happens that the initial report was one which came to FSR in our allocation of letters from the *Daily Express*, and UFOIN was asked to investigate the report. Mr. Collins was requested to do this as he was the UFOIN investigator who lived nearest to the witness. Furthermore it is with concern that we note that *Bufora Journal* neglected to give due credit to FSR and UFOIN.

EDITOR



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BEDFORDSHIRE MID-AIR "COLLISION"

Ken Phillips

Classification: September 15 1974 Billington, Bedfordshire MED Level C

LESLIE MOULSTER is a UFO enthusiast, he freely admits.* As he says, "I have been interested in the UFO business since the mid-fifties, read most of the books on the subject, subscribed to FSR since its inception, given lectures on the subject etc. So what do I do when I see a UFO? I panic and say nothing about it. After all who is going to believe a UFO addict? I wouldn't for one, and it would only confirm the general view that UFO enthusiasts sit around and talk about their latest contact with the 'space people'."

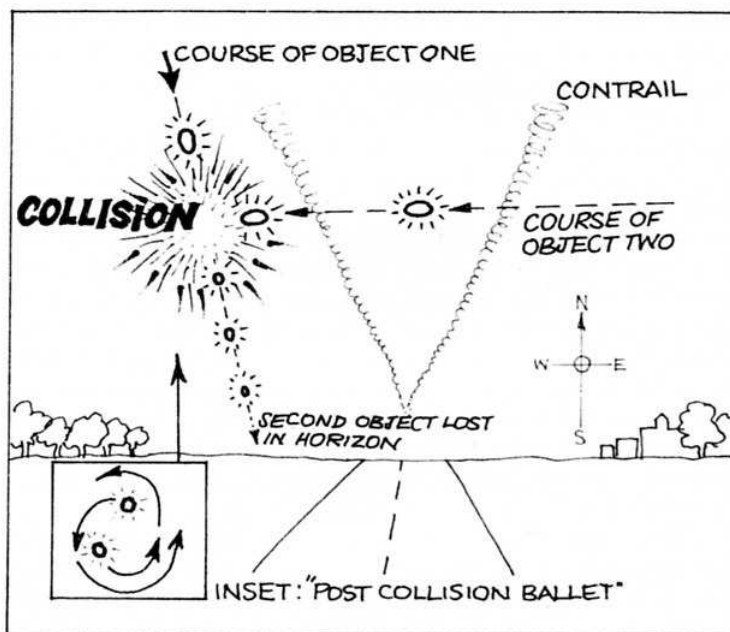
So this sighting remained dormant for four years before Leslie was brave enough to come forward and tell us about it. This he did principally because in recent months several similar incidents have come to light, and it is now not so strangely unique as it seemed at the time of its occurrence.

Mr. Moulster is an instrument fitter, now aged 47. He lives in Dunstable, and on this particular Sunday evening in 1974 he was driving along a minor road between Stanbridge and Billington, heading roughly south west. It was about 7 p.m. on a sunny evening with a light breeze and scattered cloud.

Being quite an expert in aviation he became interested in a vapour trail that crossed the sky ahead of him. It ran north-south, with the aircraft at its northern head, and disappeared into cirro-stratus cloud towards the horizon. Although it seemed that the aircraft responsible was very high (he thinks probably a Boeing 747 on a trans-polar overfly route) the trail itself was unusually wide and spread out.

Presently he turned right on to the A4146 at the Billington junction (about ½ mile from the Bedfordshire/Buckinghamshire border). He was now travelling northwards towards Leighton Buzzard and was directly under the trail. At this point he became aware of a silvery object flying parallel with the trail heading north, but offset slightly to the west of it. This he took to be another aircraft, following the same route as the first, but was surprised that it did not leave any vapour trail at all.

Mr. Moulster watched the silver oval no larger in apparent size than a pinhead) as it moved to about a 60° angle from his field of view. He had just passed through the village of Billington, when he noted to the East a clear disc shape – very similar to the



first object but coloured, quite distinctly, a dull reddish brown.

The witness had by now slowed his car appreciably to watch the sight, because it seemed that the two objects were on a collision course. Indeed within a matter of seconds they did collide with a vivid flash that temporarily blinded him and obscured everything in the vicinity.

Reacting with instinctive horror Mr. Moulster expected to see bits of wreckage falling to earth because he had totally accepted these objects as ordinary aircraft (the second one reflecting the setting sun to the West). However, after a second or so when vision returned to normal he saw in fact an amazing aerial ballet. The two objects were still quite intact and encircling one another far too tightly to be conventional aircraft.

He watched this for a few moments but his attention was distracted by the blare of a car horn behind him. An irate driver in a Rover 2000 car was becoming annoyed at his obstruction. Mr. Moulster signalled for him to overtake, and on looking back noticed that the reddish brown object had disappeared. The silver one was now proceeding on its original course as if nothing had happened!

Mr. Moulster watched the silvery dot move away northwards for a minute or two until it was lost in the horizon cloud. Every so often it seemed to flare up to the brilliance of the flash during the collision. Despite enquiries he found nobody else who had been witness to this strange sight, a factor that added to his reluctance to speak out.

* [I can testify to that, for Mr. Moulster was involved with R.H.B. Winder, G. Creighton and myself in the investigation in 1967 of the "Little Blue Man of Studham Common" – see FSR Vol. 13, No. 4. He was also involved in a debate with me in the columns of "Mail Bag" on Lenticular clouds in 1962/3 – EDITOR]