

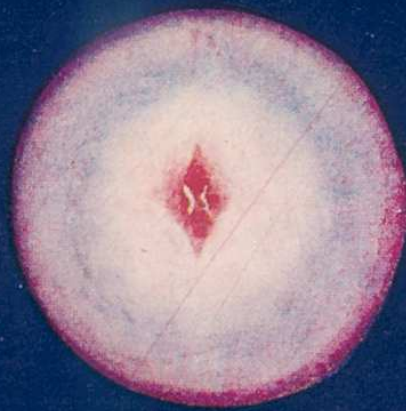
FLYING
SAUCER
REVIEW

fsi

Vol. 16, No. 4

July/August 1970

Five Shillings



This is what the artist saw.
A camera "saw" differently.

WARMINSTER PHOTOGRAPHS

See page 4



FLYING
SAUCER
REVIEW

Edited by CHARLES BOWEN

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An international journal devoted to the study of Unidentified Flying Objects

Vol. 16 No. 4
 July/August

WARMINSTER PHENOMENON

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1970

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For subscription details and addresses please see foot of page ii of cover

AN important prerequisite for any serious study of the UFO phenomenon is that the student should overlook nothing; that in addition to his essential attention to reports of aerial mysteries, to stories of landings and of alleged occupants of flying saucers, he should bear carefully in mind the claims of the "contactees". We have never made any bones about this, although we have stipulated that such claims should be considered only when shorn of the cultism that inevitably surrounds them.

When events around the Wiltshire town of Warminster began to break into the news in 1965, *Flying Saucer Review* became very interested. Accounts of poltergeist-type noises and of coincident, fleeting lights in the night, together with the remarkable report from the Reverend Phillips' family, duly appeared in our pages.¹ Thereafter, in no time at all, a photograph, of what was claimed to be a flying saucer seen over Warminster, was published in the *Daily Mirror*. When somebody described the object as a "Thing", the capital "T" caught the imagination of the public, and the newspapers of the world scrambled to outdo each other with reports from Warminster.

The sensational furore alarmed us, and, plagued by a succession of phoney-looking photographs of follow-up objects, it was decided to maintain a discreet silence in our pages.

From the midst of the red-hot clamour there arose the figure of Arthur Shuttlewood. This enthusiastic and persistent small-town journalist was destined, according to his published claims, to become Britain's most vociferous contactee.² Predictably a vigorous cult grew up and centred on Warminster's rolling downlands: in the words of one detractor, it was a "Cradle Cult". We continued with our policy of "wait and see".

Elsewhere in these pages, readers will find an account by Mr. Shuttlewood of a "sighting". They will also catch more than a hint of a typical contactee "message"; at the same time they will observe that non-cultist investigators also visit Cradle Hill.

At long last, a group of observers not connected with the "regulars" at Warminster, have obtained worthwhile, perhaps significant, pictures of something very unusual in the skies above the hills frequented by Britain's currently active contactee.

While the existence of these photographs underlies the fact that the Shuttlewood claims should not be cast aside, these words should not be construed as an exhortation that the "messages" he relays should be believed uncritically. Instead, his claims should be observed within the context of the overall UFO phenomenon.

Arthur Shuttlewood, a phenomenon within the Warminster Phenomenon, states that scores, even hundreds, of UFO manifestations have occurred around Warminster, and that he has had messages from the "operators". It should be remembered that Mr. Shuttlewood is but one among hundreds of contactees around the world—many of them going unpublicised and unknown—and we should never cease to ask ourselves what could be the reason for that phenomenon. (For notes, see page 34.)

A QUESTION OF INTEGRITY

Charles Harvard Gibbs-Smith

The entire integrity of the Condon Report was shattered long before it was even written, when in 1966 the Low memorandum was composed. Whatever intrinsic merits the completed report might possess were ineradicably tainted in advance by what was revealed in the Low document. I have waited long and in vain for this to be publicly stated; now I feel I must state it myself.*

FOR the purposes of this article, I am not concerned whether UFOs are vehicles from outer space, hamburgers tossed from balloons, or spots in front of the eyes of neurotic tabby cats. I am concerned with the status and standing of a scientific report, the Condon Report "of the Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects", completed in 1968, and released to the Press in January 1969.

On August 9, 1966, a confidential memorandum was written by a Mr. Robert J. Low to officials of the University of Colorado, concerning the proposed contract between this University and the U.S. Air Force, for the former to conduct research into UFOs, and be paid for this project out of public funds to the tune of some half a million dollars. The project was to be under the direction of Dr. Edward U. Condon, with Mr. Low (a member of the University staff) as the project co-ordinator and "key operations man". The memorandum in question was written *before* the contract was signed between the University and the Air Force.

The Low memorandum was entitled "Some Thoughts, on the UFO Project", and included the following passages (my italics):

"... Our study would be conducted almost exclusively by non-believers who, though they couldn't possibly prove a negative result, could and probably would add an impressive body of evidence that there is no reality to the observations. *The trick would be, I think, to describe the project so that, to the public, it would appear a totally objective study but, to the scientific community, would present the image of a group of non-believers trying their best to be objective, but having an almost zero expectation of finding a saucer.* One way to do this would be to stress investigation, not of the physical phenomena, but rather of the people who do the observing—the psychology and sociology of persons and groups who report seeing UFOs. *If the emphasis were put here, rather than on examination of the old question of the physical reality of the saucer, I think the scientific community would quickly get the message.* ... I'm inclined to feel at this early stage that, if we set up the thing right and take pains to get the proper people involved and have success in presenting the image we want to present to the scientific community, we could carry the job off to our benefit. . . ."

This memorandum was accidentally discovered by a researcher late in 1967, and was revealed to the public in *Look* magazine in May of 1968.

Already, the project director, Dr. Condon, had indulged in statements and activities quite out of keeping with his official role as an impartial scientific investigator, let alone as a project head.

The publicising of the memorandum, and of Dr. Condon's activities, led to a bitter controversy, as a result of which Dr. Condon dismissed two of his colleagues on the committee.¹

The Low memorandum can only be viewed as a deliberate act calculated to deceive; to deceive first the scientific community, and, through them, the public at large. I know of no modern parallel to such a cynical act of duplicity on the part of a university official dedicated, presumably, to the pursuit of truth. By the writing of such a document, the integrity of the entire project was shattered in advance. Mr. Low's words disclose that everything in the report—unbeknown to the reader, be he scientist or layman—would ultimately play its part in presenting the angled case whereby the "scientific community would quickly get the message." This, in plain language, means that a deliberate perversion of the truth was planned *before* the contract with the Air Force was signed; which, in turn, points to an *agreement* with someone, or some body, as to what that "message" should be. Thus the spirit of perversion must inevitably have pervaded the whole fabric of the report; conditioned what was included, and what was excluded; what was played up, and what was played down; what was said in a particular manner, and what was not said; what was implied, and what was not implied. In short, it was doomed to be a "tainted" report from the start. By writing this memorandum, Mr. Low has brought disgrace upon himself, and disgrace upon the whole project and all those associated with it, and not least upon the University of Colorado.

The Low memorandum also conveys an implied contempt for the subject of the UFOs which the University was being handsomely paid to investigate; and contempt is not compatible with scientific investigation. It is universally accepted in civilised society that integrity of outlook and behaviour is as sacred where a scientist is investigating the effect of lipstick on sex-appeal, as it is where a cure is being sought for cancer. No one but a scoundrel would think otherwise.

What underlines the dishonesty which surrounds the whole project is the fact that *at no time has the Low*

* Mr. Gibbs-Smith is one of the world's foremost aviation historians and has written many books for the London Science Museum. He holds the degree of M.A. from his family university of Harvard (U.S.A.). He is also an Honorary Companion of the Royal Aeronautical Society
—EDITOR.

memorandum been repudiated, or even deplored, by any of the parties to the deal; nor—to its shame—by the American Academy of Sciences. Neither the University of Colorado nor the Air Force has had a word of explanation to offer for behaviour which cuts at the very roots of scientific integrity.

It is all too clear that the American Academy of Sciences felt that this case was not worth making any fuss about; otherwise it would have gone into action; and this is one of the most deplorable aspects of the whole case. The Academy should, of course, have immediately disowned Dr. Condon if it was not proved to its satisfaction that he knew nothing of the memorandum until it was published; and it should have issued a statement roundly condemning him for continuing with the project after he *did* know about the business.

As for the University of Colorado, its duty was plain as a pikestaff; it should have expelled Mr. Low and everyone who was associated with his memorandum, and it should have immediately cancelled the project, and handed back the money to the Air Force. The fact that it did none of these things; and made no public statement of any kind repudiating the memorandum—

and even allowed the project to continue as if nothing had happened—now marks it out as a discredited small-time college to which I hope no project of any seriousness will ever again be entrusted.

Let no one forget that we have not been discussing UFOs; we have been discussing scientific integrity. And I would remind the President of the University of Colorado—who contributed a pathetic and egregious little foreword to the Report—of how the word 'integrity' is defined by the best American dictionary. Integrity, says Webster, is "*such rectitude that one is incapable of being false to a trust, a responsibility, a pledge.*"

C.H.G-S.
London.
May 1970.

NOTE

¹One of the colleague dismissed by Dr. Condon was Dr. David Saunders who, in fact, was the "researcher" who discovered the existence of Mr. Low's memorandum.—EDITOR.

IS FLYING SAUCER REVIEW GOING MONTHLY..?

In effect YES..!

From September, 1970, we will publish both the regular bi-monthly FSR, and, on alternate months, between regular issues, a new journal devoted solely to presenting reports and investigations. The new publication will be known as

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW CASE HISTORIES SUPPLEMENT

and it is scheduled to appear six times a year, commencing with the issue for October, 1970.

The quality of printing of the new journal will be the same, and the layout similar to that of the regular FSR, so that it will be possible to bind the new journal together with the old.

The price of CASE HISTORIES SUPPLEMENT will be 4s. 0d. a copy, post paid.

The new journal will be devoted to the presentation of investigators' reports from home and overseas, readers' reports, world-wide news items in the style of World Round-up, special reports of major investigations or other interesting cases in the form of articles, historical cases, re-investigation of old cases, and so on.

This brave new venture will depend for success on the ready support of our readers. So it is up to you—all of you who want a monthly FSR—to play your part in establishing what could well be the nucleus of an FSR/reader/investigator network.

By subscription: £1 4s. 0d. (£1.20) per annum; overseas £1 6s. 0d. (£1.30) or \$3.40 per annum.

Remittances, payable to "Flying Saucer Review," to:

F.S.R. Case Histories, 49a Kings Grove, Peckham, London SE15

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

New increases in printing costs—with more envisaged by the end of the year—plus rises in the cost of stationery, and the threat of imminent and savage increases in postage, have forced upon us the necessity of revising the price of our regular bi-monthly FSR. It has been something of an achievement to have held steady our price of a single copy for more than four years, but inflationary pressures are such that as from September/October 1970 we will have to charge 6s. 0d. a copy.

From September 1970, therefore, the annual subscription to FLYING SAUCER REVIEW will be £1 16s. 0d. (£1.80) per annum. The overseas rate will be £1 18s. 0d. (£1.90), or \$5.00—bank exchange commission on dollar cheques is catered for in this latter amount—which includes postage by surface mail.

PHOTOGRAPHS FROM CRADLE HILL

John C. Ben

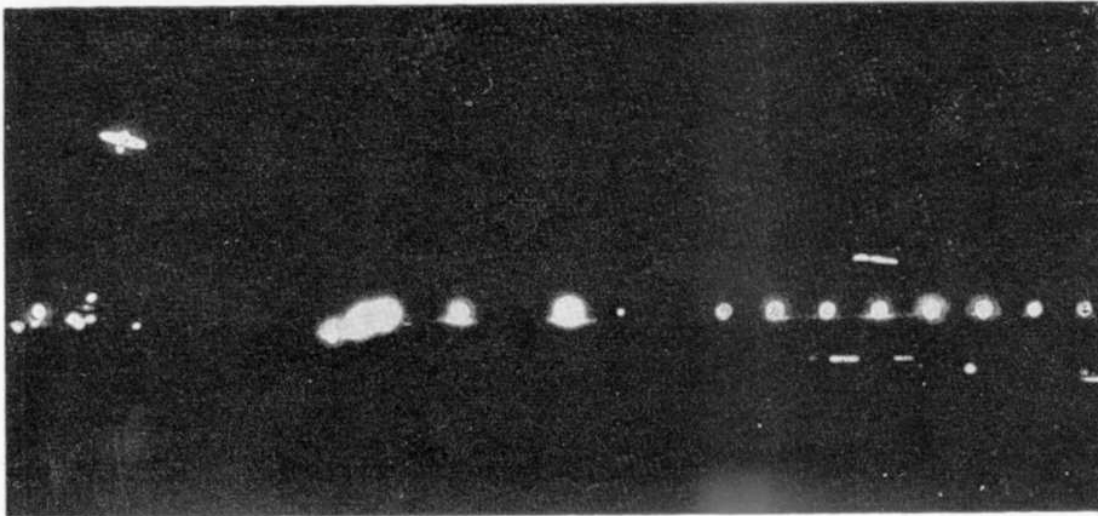
AT 11.00 p.m. on the evening of March 28, 1970, approximately 30 people, including the following witnesses,* were gathered on Cradle Hill, Warminster:

John and Christine Ben,
West Kingsdown,
Sevenoaks, Kent

Stephen Hall,
Crayford,
Kent

witnesses with good vision. A local witness whose first name was Molly (she seemed to be a member of Arthur Shuttlewood's group) said it was in the direction of Starr (Middle) Hill.

The object remained stationary for approximately 30 seconds, during which time Mr. Foxwell was able to take the first of his photographs. The object then



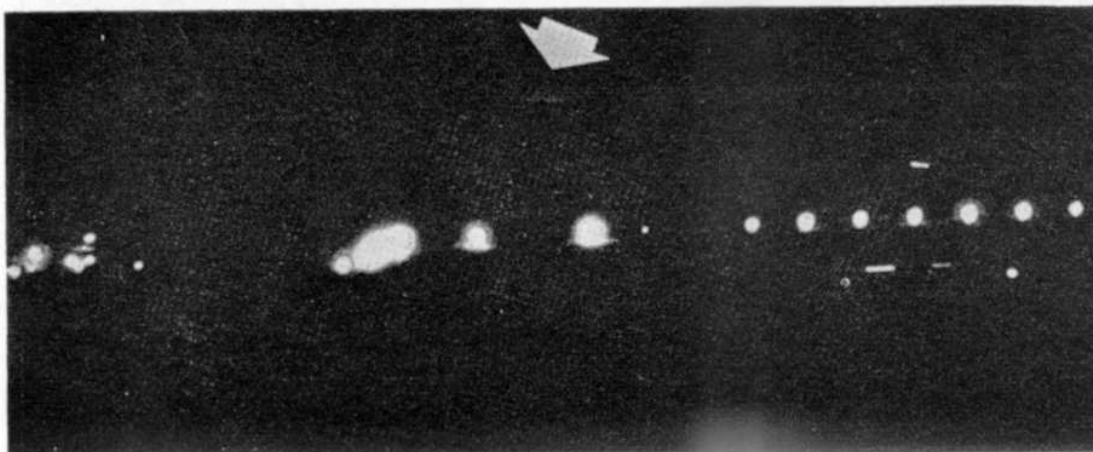
Photograph 1: the object, high to the left. Note, to the right, the lights of a car moving on the hill beyond the street lights

Roger and Peter Keene,
Welling, Kent
Mr. N. Foxwell

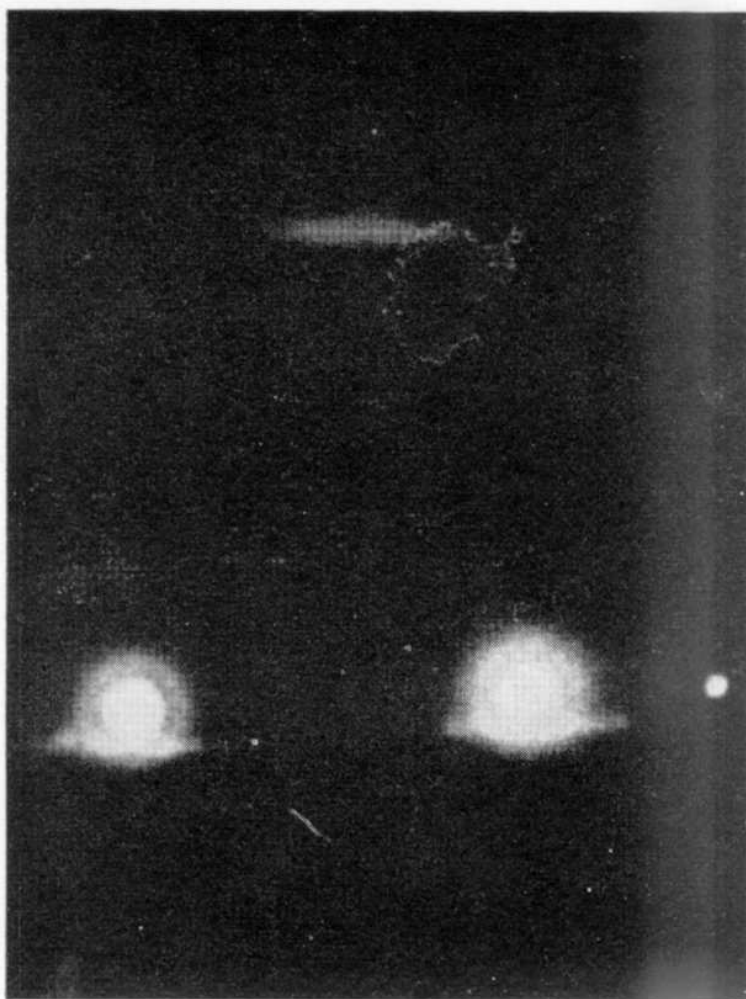
Terence R. Collins,
London, SW2
Colin Farrow,
Crayford, Kent

The sky was very cloudy and there had been a little light rain earlier in the evening. At 11.02 p.m. an object was seen at an elevation of approximately 20° in the eastern sky. The object appeared very suddenly as if it came through the clouds, and appeared to the eye as a very bright ovoid light—purple in colour with a periphery of white. Two members of my group who observed the object through binoculars both remarked they could see a crimson light in the centre; this was also attested to by

moved slowly to the right—towards the town—and lost a little altitude in the process. At one stage in the movement it dimmed considerably as though obscured by low cloud. The object continued moving for approximately 20-30 seconds, and then stopped again. The light then increased considerably in intensity, though we could not be sure if the object was moving directly towards the observation point, or if it remained stationary. At this point the alarm of a detector sounded and a witness ran to switch it off. After 10-20 seconds the light dimmed and went out as though concealed by cloud. However, we were all certain that the object had not moved once more. The sighting had lasted for approximately 1 to 1½



Photograph 2: the object has moved to the right, and its luminosity appears to have diminished. Note the new position of the car lights



Above: Enlarged detail from photograph 2. Below: the scene by day

minutes. Within a few minutes of the object's disappearance rain fell very heavily and continued to do so for about 30 minutes.

After the sighting I spoke to Mr. Foxwell and arranged for him to give me his film before he left Cradle Hill. I also spoke to the man with the detector who told me it

was not his but only on loan from a friend; thus he did not know how it worked beyond the fact that a compass needle was used to complete the circuit. At this point the rain began and he told me he lived in Bexhill-on-Sea, and that he would give me his address when the rain stopped. Unfortunately he must have left before the rain stopped, so I cannot give his address. I must also add that a number of witnesses left the area very soon after the object was sighted.

While we sat in the car we discussed the sighting and most people agreed that the crimson object had been star-shaped, though my eyesight was not good enough to penetrate the purple glare.

The next day we went to Starr Hill and obtained the farmer's permission to go to the area, but we found no visible traces. When asked, the farmer and wife both said they had seen and heard nothing.

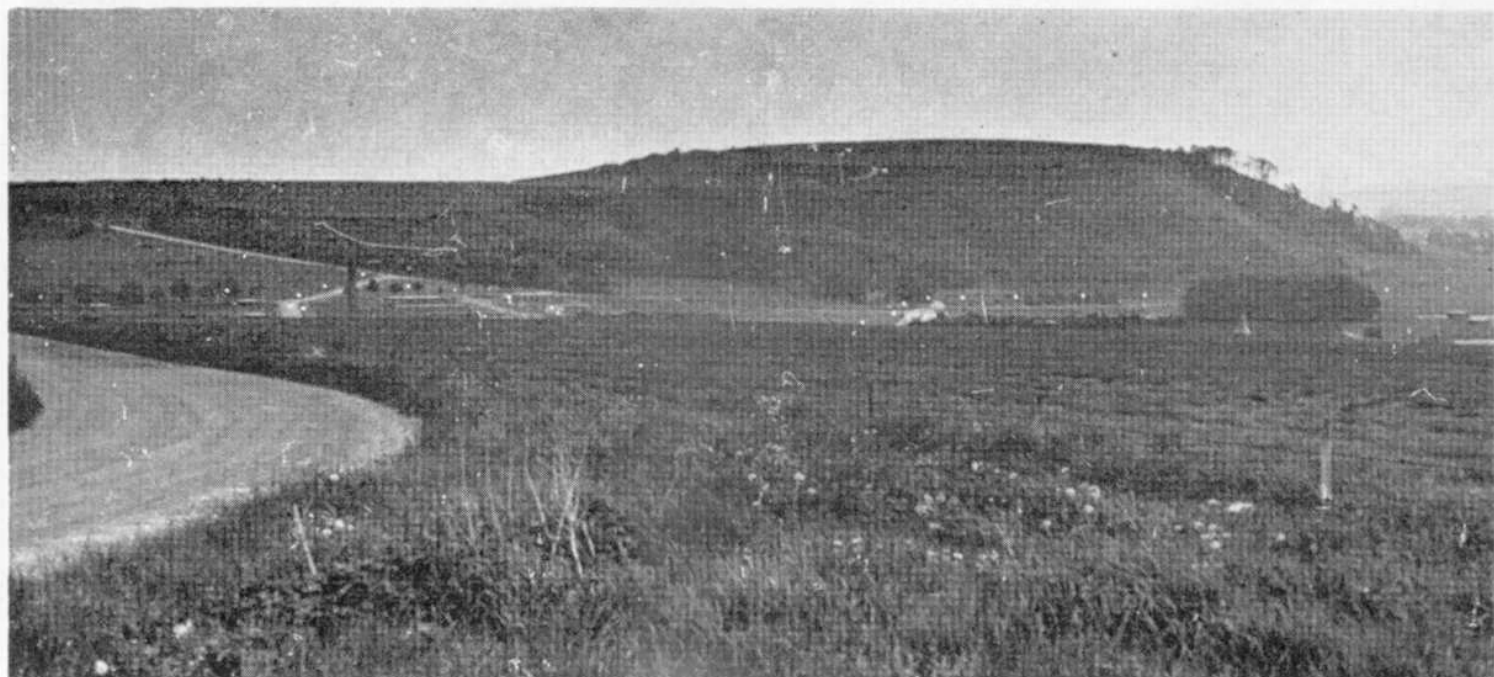
No sound was heard from the object at any time during the sighting.

Mr. Foxwell took his photographs with a Kodak Retinette 1B mounted on a tripod. He used an Ilford H.P.4 film which he exposed at f2.8 for 0.1 seconds.

On my return to work on Tuesday, March 31, I took the film to the photographic department of the Wellcome Institute of the History of Medicine, where it was developed by Mr. Trevor Stannard and Mr. John Hazell in Microdol X for 14 minutes at 68°F. This was the only time that the film was out of my possession from the time it was taken on Cradle Hill and given to the Editor of *Flying Saucer Review*, in the presence of Messrs. Gibbs-Smith, Creighton, Lade and Winder, on April 7.

Stephen Hall also made four exposures of the object. He used a Kodak Instamatic with a Kodacolor-X film; but unfortunately nothing came out. However, he asked me to send the negatives to FSR in the hope that Mr. Hennell may have some success with them.

* The addresses of all eight people are on file with FSR—
EDITOR.



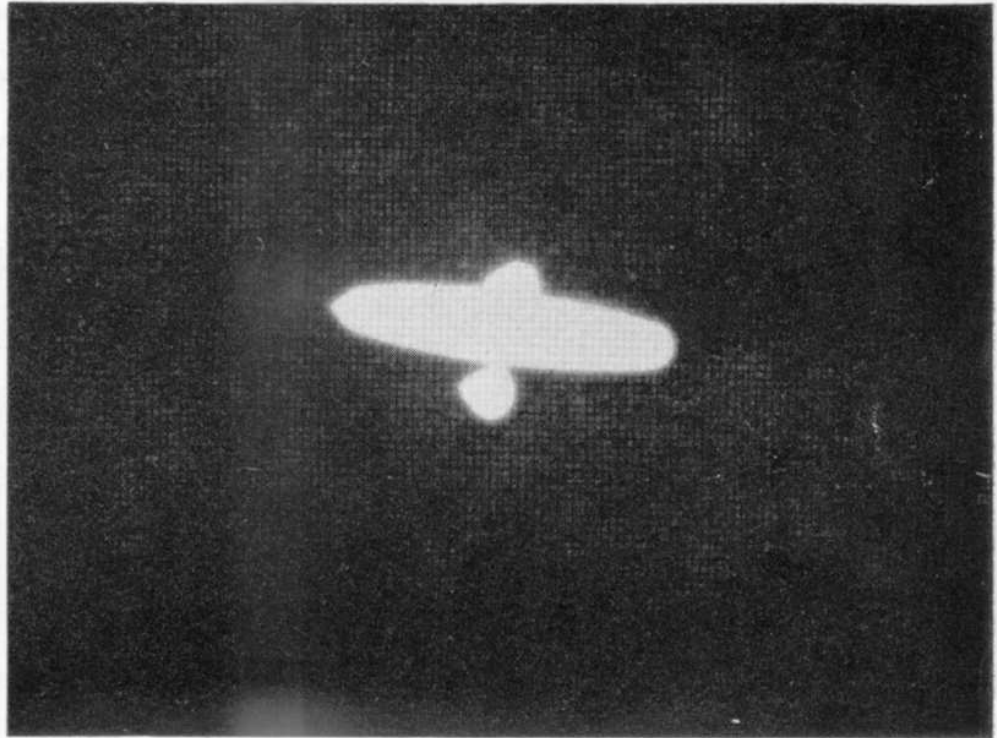
THE WARMINSTER PHOTOGRAPHS EXAMINED

Percy Hennell

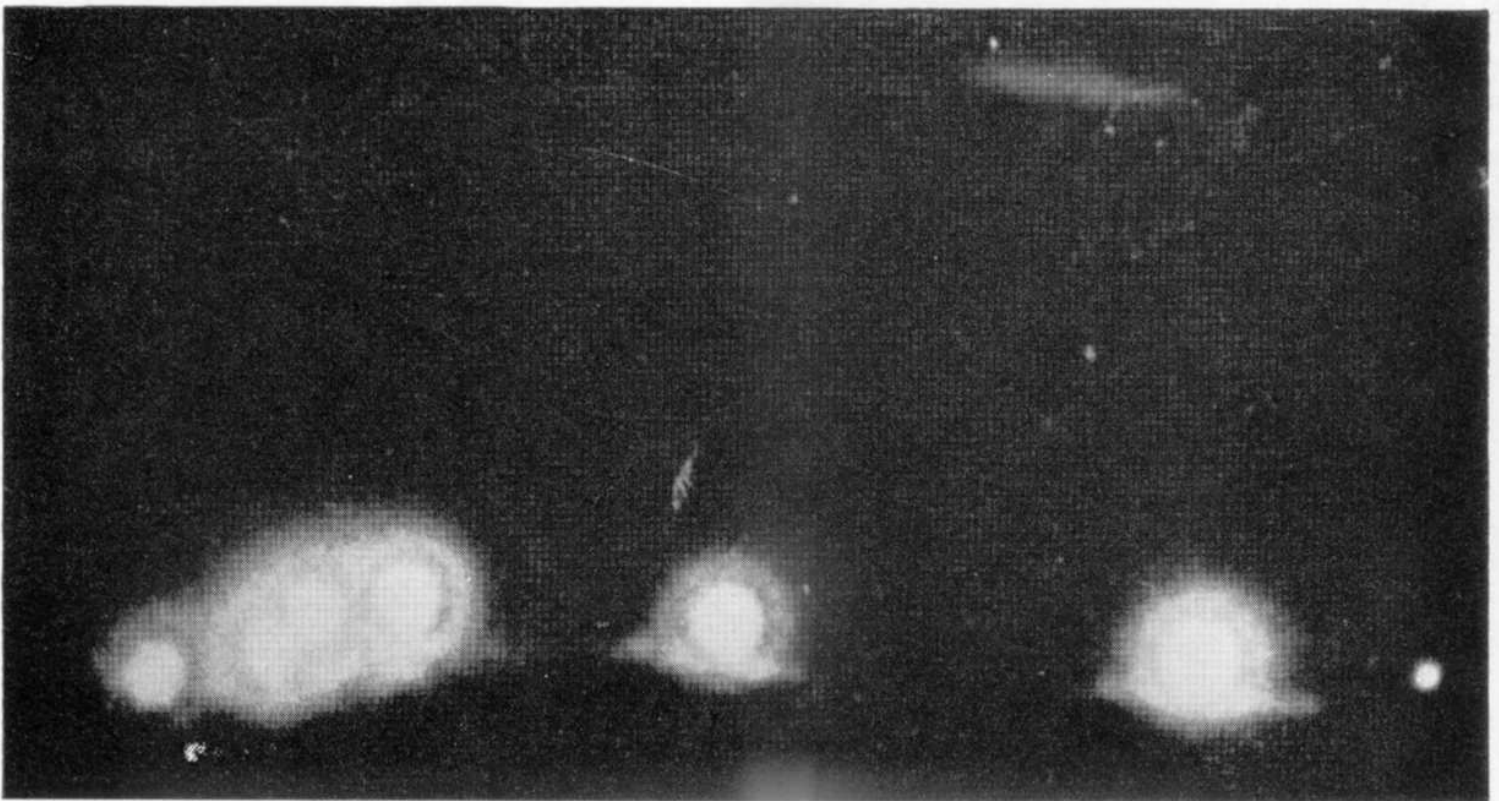
I AM glad to have had an opportunity to examine the Warminster photographs—including the negative strip—taken by Mr. Foxwell.

Let me say at the outset that there is nothing about these photographs which suggests to me that they have been faked in any way. The movement of object from left to right, bearing in mind that the photographs were made with a camera on a tripod in a fixed position, is quite clearly in its relationship to the group of large street lights. The next thing that I find very interesting is that the luminosity of the object in the first photograph is as great as, or greater than, that of the street lights.

In order to try and resolve, if possible, some structure in the object, I have made the enlargements which accompany these notes. I have not been particularly successful in this, but one very interesting fact emerges. If one studies the enlargement from photo



Mr. Hennell's enlargements from photo 7 (above) and photo 2 (below)



1, one will see that the discs, top and bottom, and the cigar shape in the middle, are all three slightly elongated at the left-hand side. This suggests to me that some propulsive jet may have been operating to move the object to the right.

It is possible to see—although I suspect, too faintly for reproduction—some indication of a protuberance at the top and bottom of the second picture. This is shown more clearly in the slightly out-of-focus print. The fall off in luminosity and focus in the second picture suggests to me that the object may

have been moving away as well as to the right.*

There is an abrasion on the right-hand side of the second photograph, which is unfortunate. Through a glass it rather looks as though some attempt was made to remove it. If this is so, it is a pity, because it has affected the object itself.

The car headlights on the distant hill to the right of the picture are quite interesting as they are obviously appearing in the same position, and the second one, being much shorter, suggests that the car

had stopped and switched off the lights, possibly to observe the object, which appears to be travelling in that direction. However, this is only conjecture, but in an examination of this phenomenon nothing is without some significance.

I am afraid I could do nothing with the [Stephen Hall] coloured negatives.

* Mr. Hennell did not have Mr. Ben's account to hand when he examined the photographs and made his report, but he had been given the technical details—EDITOR.

WHAT THE EYE SEES . . .

The **cover illustration** is an intriguing example of the work of the human eye and the brain. It is a detail from a painting done from memory by Terence Collins, a professional artist, after he had watched, through binoculars, the object photographed by Mr. Foxwell from Cradle Hill, Warminster, on March 28th.

Mr. Collins was one of three witnesses who stated that they could see, inside the very bright glare, a red, diamond-shaped object. His painting shows that the "diamond" he saw was composed of four adjoining, smaller "diamonds". When he painted his impression of the nocturnal scene he had no idea how the photographs would turn out—indeed, I gather he was unaware that there had been any success with the cameras. The negative strip, and Mr. Ben's prints, were in my possession long before the painting was tackled.

Three people claimed that they could see something in the midst of the glaring light. Why was the something they saw so different from the image recorded by the camera? One begins to wonder what the act of "seeing" was, as far as these three witnesses were concerned.

When I showed him the painting, Mr. R. H. B. Winder observed: "These colours are reminiscent of the colours associated with ionisation in air."

CHARLES BOWEN.

THE HON. BRINSLEY LE POER TRENCH

It is always sad to say good-bye to old friends, and there can be no one connected with the Flying Saucer Review who will not greatly regret that Brinsley has reluctantly resigned from his Directorship of Flying Saucer Services Ltd. But it is at least one blessing for all of us that there has been no argument, no difference of opinion, and no clash of personalities that has led to his resignation. He is just too busy, with too many commitments, to feel he can give of his best; so he felt he had to leave us.

Brinsley's contributions to Ufology are twofold. First there are the arduous tasks he undertook as Editor of FSR from mid-1956 to late 1959, having been a Director from the very start, in January 1955. He resigned in October 1959; and was re-elected at the end of 1964, and has served right through till now. To serve as a Director can often be onerous; to serve as Editor is to be condemned to a treadmill.

But even more important has been Brinsley's second contribution; that is his constant championing of the cause wherever he has been, through word of mouth and through his books. To many people he is the chief spokesman in England for those who believe in the reality of UFOs, and he has done immeasurably well at this task of standing forth and proclaiming the existence of the UFO phenomena.

We shall all miss him, but he has assured us of his continued interest and goodwill where FSR is concerned, and we look upon him now as part of our history. AVE ATQUE VALE!

C. H. GIBBS-SMITH.

ELLIPSOID, PLUME & PYRAMID

Arthur Shuttlewood

This contribution is an extract from a longer article submitted by the author. The portion which was omitted covers an incident which allegedly took place on February 18 this year, and during which he claims he again saw the "pyramid-carrying UFO" together with a vision of a silvery circle and cross . . . a pattern "chock a'block of 'nines'" which he considers of great significance.*

WHAT one can only describe as a singularly unusual experience befell John Roseweir, national chairman of Contact UK, and I, on the night of January 18 this year. We were at Cradle Hill, Warminster, focal centre of so many inexplicable aerial phenomena for the past five years.

Singular because it was the first UFO of this particular type ever seen in our quarter of the country. Silently it glided into view at exactly 9.30 p.m. from the south-west and hovered for a total of 20 seconds almost due south of where we were positioned on the hill proper, by the now-familiar white metal gates.

The ellipsoid was pure gold in colour, and suspended at a height of about 50ft. above ground level, between Cop Heap and the Warminster Downs, edged by West Wilts Golf Club greens. Over the sun-disc aeriform was a silvery plume which, in spite of a fairly stiff breeze from the south-east, was motionless and unwavering; and from the bottom portion of the UFO a dark triangle, or pyramid shape, could clearly be seen at a later phase. Both observers estimated the "craft" to be no more than a mile distant from the viewing base, the ellipsoid probably of 30ft. overall dimension.

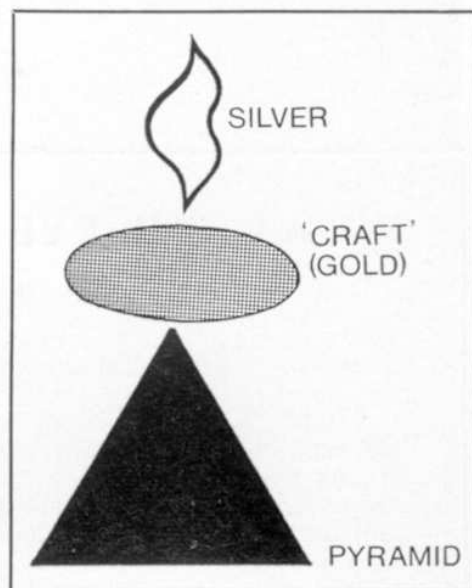
Immediately prior to this, we were quietly discussing megalithic remains and monoliths, also the recurrence of the figures 3 and 9 in progressive stages of UFO sightings and research, the significance of the Great Pyramid at Gizeh, recent "haywire" and inconsistent scientific instrument readings of the power that lies beneath the area of the Sphinx, and so on . . . difficult to compute with any degree of finality.

In my last book I mentioned a special "visitor" on the morning of August 27th of 1967. Then, on exactly the same date in 1969, we had a definite UFO landing at Warminster with 13 witnesses present—far more convincing than one poor soul on his own. Researcher Norman Oliver gave us unexpected backing in this true story, which the cynics—as usual, bless them—were still inclined to deride as "far too fantastic to credit."

He affirmed, publicly, that "An interesting point is that there were several people camping out on The Copse with scientific equipment, including a geiger counter, who asked to be shown the spot where the figure appeared. Whilst the geiger counter worked normally elsewhere, the reverse of what might perhaps have been expected occurred at the spot where the figure had been seen; the geiger counter 'packed up' and registered nothing! This was tested several times to make sure the counter itself was not at fault, but with the same result."

I mention this corroboration, because it was a complete surprise to Warminster "regulars", unaware that other watchers were present besides the 13. However, to return to the "pyramid" sighting saga . . . August 27 of 1967 and 1969 brought minor revelations—and the digits of the month date may be of importance . . . $2 + 7 = 9$. Perhaps August 27th of 1971, following the logical sequence of a "3" in the pattern, will be especially significant.

On January 18th ($1 + 8 = 9$) at 9.30 p.m. (another "9" and "3"), the dark pyramid appendage dangling from the bottom of the UFO seemed to sidle sideways and land at a point near Cop Heap after the glowing



golden craft winked brightly three times and vanished. The plume at the top dissolved simultaneously. What did it all mean? And how often we have wondered precisely that, after so many strange sightings at Cradle Hill!

* Mr. Shuttlewood states that the question of the figure 9 in association with UFO phenomena will be dealt with fully in his forthcoming third and last book on the subject. In this work he will also reveal how Messrs. Patrick Moore and Robert Chapman "fared in visual experiences of the unwordly." John Harney has published the article in full in his *Merseyside UFO Bulletin* (53 Woodyear Road, Bromborough, Cheshire.)

DON'T FORGET . . .

Tell your friends about

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

MYSTERY AEROPLANES OF THE 1930s

Part 2

John A. Keel

THE first flight over the North Pole was made on May 8-9, 1926, by the then Lt./Commander Richard E. Byrd, and aviation pioneer Floyd Bennett. They took off from Kings Bay, Spitsbergen, and made the Arctic circuit in 15½ hours in a Fokker trimotor. The flight made headlines worldwide, and photographs of the plane were widely published throughout Scandinavia. Two years later, Sir Hubert Wilkins and Carl Ben Eielson made the first trans-arctic flight when they flew from Point Barrow, Alaska, to Spitsbergen. That same month (April 1928), Captain Hermann Koehl and Captain James Fitzmaurice attempted to fly from Dublin to New York City but they crashed on Greely Island, Labrador, and were rescued.

The flight of Byrd and Bennett in 1926 inspired one of the most persistent myths in ufology, for a radio operator claimed to have received a message from the expedition describing a forested land beyond the pole populated by large animals. This purported message has become a key piece of "evidence" for the popular theory that the earth is shaped like a doughnut, with a big hole at the North Pole.¹ Actually, anomalous intelligent radio signals have always been with us, and some of them have created outrageous hoaxes. In 1899, Nicola Tesla claimed to have received such signals with his apparatus in Colorado . . . *at a time when there were no known radio stations in existence.*^{2,3} Marconi commented on the mysterious signals his company received during and after World War I. Such signals became common in the 1920s, and their source remained inexplicable.³

In the early 1960s, Frank Edwards published the sensational details of an anomalous broadcast received at various amateur receiving stations equipped to monitor Soviet space shots. These broadcasts lasted for several days and were supposedly from orbiting manned satellites at a time when the Soviet Union was simply not prepared to make such flights.⁴

The U.S. manned space programme has been plagued with these inexplicable signals. The manned Lunar shots of 1969 featured several incredible interruptions, with strange voices and sounds being received, by the Houston space Center, from outer space (definitely) and *not* from the American space craft.⁵ During the search for the lost submarine *Scorpion* in 1968, radio signals were received and triangulated by the Navy, coming from a spot far from where the *Scorpion* had actually gone down. These signals employed the very low frequencies (VLF) reserved for nuclear submarines and utilised the top secret naval code. Rescue planes and ships rushed to the spot immediately and found nothing.⁶

Our unidentified radio hoaxers seem to have superb and expensive equipment of a rare, hard-to-obtain, type. It is highly probable that the Byrd broadcast of 1926 was really their handiwork. During the 1934 "ghostflier" wave, anomalous radio signals were received throughout northern Europe and added greatly to the consternation created by that wave.

Diversionary tactics form a fundamental pattern in the UFO mystery. Evidence of a false and misleading nature is frequently sown in the path of the objects. Elaborate diversionary events are often staged to support various frames of reference, and to obscure the real activities and purposes of the UFOs. Since 1896 this pattern of "psychological warfare" has become apparent in every major flap. Direct contact was (and is being) established with random witnesses to circulate new rumours and nonsense, and to lend weight to the popular theories.

I suspect that while an aerial phenomenon definitely exists, it consists mostly of camouflage and deception, and has falsely represented itself to us.

Perhaps the plan is a very long range one so that contrivances such as the 1926 Byrd broadcast can, forty years later, become "evidence" for the hollow earth believers. Acknowledged hoaxes of one year become a "fact" in later years. Contactees have been told (by "them") of flying saucer crashes. These stories have been picked up and repeated until they became a "fact" to many ufologists. The best example of this might be Frank Scully's *Behind the Flying Saucers* in which he repeated contactee hearsay. Today many UFO researchers still write to the Air Force and ask about Scully's "little men" supposedly pickled in bottles in the Pentagon. In his books in the 1950s, Donald E. Keyhoe, it seems, also escalated hearsay and second-hand information to the regal status of "fact".

The Spitsbergen Hoax

The island of Spitsbergen, 400 miles north of the Norwegian mainland, is the site of another persistent UFO legend. In the early 1950s, a European tabloid, noted for its devotion to fictitious scandals, published a phoney story about a flying saucer crash on Spitsbergen. The article named non-existent Scandinavian scientists and military officials and went into graphic detail about the construction of the object, including such bits of intelligence as a description of a power plant which was "surrounded by a nucleus of plutonium". A translation of the story was published in *Fate* magazine in 1954. Frank Edwards picked it up from there and turned this piece of fiction into a "fact" in his book, *Flying Saucers—Serious Business*. In 1966, I visited the