

crashed UFO. He was blind-folded and driven to a point about 30 minutes away from a base of operations. There, inside of a tent standing in soft sand, his blind-fold was removed. From there he was taken to a location where he saw a silvery metallic craft about 25 to 30 feet in diameter. The exterior of the craft, he said, was not damaged, however, his on-the-spot two-day analysis of the ship's metal, using the equipment he carried with him, showed that it was not native to Earth.

Major Daly, although he was not permitted to enter the craft, observed that the craft's entrance measured four to five feet high and two to three feet wide.

Comment:

Major Daly's blindfolded trip to the crash site, similar to that of Fritz Werner's, indicates that it was

common procedure for the military to use extreme security measures relative to UFO retrievals. It is to be noted that Major Daly's experience takes place in April, a month shy of Fritz Werner's which was in May of the same year. Also, to be noted is that Daly did not see any dead alien bodies. Maybe they had already been removed, or, if the craft was found undamaged, as he attested, it is possible the occupants managed to evade capture. Or, perhaps there were two crashes in a desert area in the Spring of 1953. If, however, the reports of Werner and Daly describe the same crashed UFO event, it is possible that Daly gave the wrong month.

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To be continued in the next issue of *Flying Saucer Review*.

THE SUNDERLAND FAMILY ENCOUNTERS Part 2

Jenny Randles & Paul Whetnall

This is a UFOIN report. Classification data: July 1976 Oakenholt, Clwyd, N. Wales CE3 A Psycho, TR Level A.

IN PART 1 we related the accounts of Darren Sunderland (aged 8 in 1976) and his sister Gaynor (aged 9 in 1976) of events stated to have taken place in Clwyd in July 1976. We also gave details of the investigations — including hypnotic regression of Gaynor — and of the parts played by the *Liverpool Post* and the BBC Radio in publicising the case which only came to light in 1978. It also transpired that the Sunderlands were “repeaters.”

Other encounters

Details of other encounter experiences came to light slowly. Gaynor, in fact, was frightened of telling about hers because she said she thought they would make her sound less believable. It was, therefore, early in 1979 before she began to talk about them. The other members of the Sunderland family were also hesitant, but then, after a couple of events had occurred, began to feel that a pattern was unfolding and began to speak about them to investigators as they happened. There are so many that little more than a brief chronology can be given here:-

March — April 1976: On three occasions (around 6.30 p.m.) Gaynor saw strange “stars”, twice in the SE, once in the SSW, close to the area of her subsequent CE3 encounter. Basically these were orange and red lights, once spinning round. They came overhead and just vanished suddenly. The first is the most

interesting, consisting of a circle of 7 coloured lights (red, orange, green and white) that merged, hovered for 5 minutes, split apart and flew off in different directions.

Late Sept. 1976: Huge orange light hovering over the Dee estuary for several minutes. Gaynor glanced away for a second and when she looked back it had gone.

July 1977: A year after the encounter in the fields, at 9.00 p.m., Gaynor saw a large orange light, apparently over the same field. Her mother called her in, and as she started to wind up her skipping rope it just “melted away.”

Late Sept. 1978: Two orange lights joined by a black bar over the Wirral. Moved towards her and then just vanished. Her schoolfriend nearby claims to have seen the same thing.

Mid-Oct. 1978: Mrs Sunderland whilst outside at 10.00 p.m., observed a pale yellow light moving slowly over the Dee towards the Wirral. She called her husband out. At first he said it was an aircraft, and then stood amazed as it split into two distinct yellow lights that flew on a parallel course for a time, then merged and sank down to land, apparently, in open country near Neston (there are no airfields anywhere in that area).

Oct. 29, 1978: This was a remarkable night since two encounters took place, but neither was related immediately to the other witnesses. At 9.15 p.m. Gaynor was returning from a disco with her elder

brother Carl. She saw a large orange light hovering in the SE, seemingly dancing on the hedgerows. She pointed it out to Carl, who said it was just a funny firework and turned away. She continued to watch for several more seconds before it shot off over fields.

At 10.00 p.m. Mrs Sunderland took their dog for a walk near the house. As usual, on clear nights such as this one, she took her binoculars to look at the stars. Suddenly in the SSW, near the location of Gaynor's CE3, she saw a large light. She tried, but failed to dismiss it as aircraft or star. Through binoculars it appeared as a white circle with a smaller orange circle inside. A red band, about quarter the width of the orange circle, was lying across the middle, with a break in the centre. The whole thing rotated anti-clockwise at a moderate but consistent rate. She felt isolated and hypnotically attracted to it. Eventually she broke free from the spell and rushed home, taking out her loaded camera. As she fumbled to photograph it, the sphere climbed at a 45 degree angle, hovered briefly, and as she was about to take the picture, shot away at an unbelievable speed to disappear almost instantly.

Where the object had been there remained a very faint, circular green luminescence. Twenty minutes later she went out again and it was still there. At 2.00 a.m. she got up to look for it but it had gone. Next day she contacted nearby RAF Sealand, (10 miles to the East), and she was told they had had dozens of other reports of it, but they had no idea what it was. Wishing to give us the addresses of other witnesses, she called RAF Sealand again next day. They denied all knowledge of the UFO and of other reports!

Feb. 21, 1979: Gaynor is very fond of animals, and they respond well to her. At 6.15 p.m. she was out walking Shep, an intelligent Welsh Border Collie owned by some friends. Suddenly he lay down, face on the floor whimpering for no apparent reason. Gaynor looked ahead and saw a bright orange ball in the SE, hovering and spinning. She glanced to the side and says she saw two entities in the gloom by bushes some 25 yards ahead. They were dressed as before, and were smiling. Shep was still whining, so thinking he was hurt she glanced down at him. When she looked up moments later the entities were gone. The light hovered for two minutes and Shep remained on the floor. Then it vanished suddenly and the dog immediately leapt up and ran home barking. Gaynor went after him, but did not tell the owners about the sighting.

March 7, 1979: At 10.00 a.m. Mrs Sunderland excitedly called Jenny Randles to relate an incident she said occurred at 1.50 a.m. She had awakened suddenly, for no obvious reason, and then noticed that the street light outside the window had gone out. Within seconds she heard a low rumbling noise and a brilliant white light appeared, moving slowly across her curtains, in the direction of Gaynor's bedroom. She was terrified and unable to move. Then, after only about 20 seconds, the light vanished, the noise stopped and the street light came back on. Next morning Gaynor said that she had had one of the best night's sleep she could ever recall, but had no



Gaynor Sunderland's July 1976 encounter as illustrated on the cover of FSR Vo. 25, No. 3.

unusual incidents or dreams to relate.

We could go on, because there are many associated encounters reported by other villagers, including a 16-year-old girl who is terrified to talk about an object she confronted on the ground one night in August 1978. This was in a field by Coed-On road. At the time of when she told this story, via a friend, there was no local knowledge of any of the Sunderland's encounters.

We also have a report, from early 1979, of a man in Shotton who was suddenly confronted by a man in a silver suit. Shotton is just 5 miles east of Oakenholt. The case is being pursued independently. We also have on file an unpublished case from July 1975 in which a couple driving in a car at a similar time in the afternoon as Gaynor's experience, and again on a sunny day like Gaynor's, were confronted by a figure in a silver one-piece suit and helmet. This creature clambered down an embankment in awkward steps. This is said to have happened at Ewloe, 4 miles east of Oakenholt!

Other paranormal experiences

Mrs Sunderland admitted, reluctantly, that she has had psychic experiences. These seem to be low key events involving precognitive dreams of a family nature. She said that neither Gaynor nor Darren exhibited such traits. However, we were interested in the mental picture Gaynor said she had to tell her mother, and on further questioning it was revealed that she could have potential for paranormal experiences.

On several occasions since the main CE3 she had seen mental pictures of the entities smiling (as with the February 1979 sighting). These occur when she is under stress, and she cites an instance where she was chased across a field by a strange boy. They always seem to calm her down.

She also claims to have had strange dreams on a number of occasions. These sometimes involve her being inside a UFO, with a high back chair and a row of buttons, plus the "aliens." Once she dreamed of walking past the field of her experience with her mother. She turns around to see the entities smiling and beckoning her. Beside them was a squat black "thing." At which point she awoke.

On March 24, 1979, she was babysitting at a friend's house. At 9.30 p.m. she called her mother and asked her to come over. She could only do so at 10.30. From time to time Gaynor glanced anxiously around the room, and she seemed uneasy. Suddenly, while they were talking about something else, she leapt up and sat by her mother. She regained her composure and mentioned that she had never felt happy in that house. She sensed a presence there. Then she added: "I think they are important people. Leaders, or scientists – something like that. They are important in their world. They are beautiful to their own kind. They think they are pretty. I don't think all their kind look like that. What they were doing was important to them. Do you understand?" Mrs Sunderland, was shocked but nodded in the affirmative. Gaynor instantly returned to her "old self" and never mentioned anything more about it, or them, again. She seemed as if "a weight was lifted from her mind."

In addition it should be noted that Gaynor has always had the feeling that the entities would return. However, initially she said "I am not sure if I will ever see them again." After her February 1979 sighting (the only one, incidentally, which she feels was a UFO – the others she just calls "pretty stars") she announced that she would see them again, and it would not be long. She says that she accepts this and is not afraid, but she would like someone else to be with her to see them as well.

Conclusions

How does one conclude a case such as this? To the investigators it has been the most fascinating case with which they have ever been involved, and indeed they are well aware of the possibility that it is not yet concluded. We think we must summarise it in three ways: 1) Darren's sighting; 2) Gaynor's sighting; 3) Other events.

1. Darren's sighting:-

We believe that the comments we made earlier in this report are self conclusive. There is little evidence that points to the objective reality of Darren's story. It is in an entirely different league to Gaynor's, and bears no correlation with previous UFO phenomena reported elsewhere. There are clear indications of childish fantasy and exaggeration. It is always possible that he did have a genuine experience, but there is so much of an overlay of data that can be readily explained in psychological terms that, in the realm of valuable evidence, it is really a non-starter. It should be added that Mrs Sunderland does believe Darren's story, while he still insists it is factual. However, we feel that it cannot be argued that the

stories are remotely similar (as she does) except in points which Darren has seemingly adapted to fit his sister's story. The similarity of dates may also be an illusionary thing. It is impossible to unravel the complex events that took place between the telling of the stories and their release to Terry Bellis about a month later.

However, we should remember that Darren told his story first, and it would be quite a coincidence if it were imaginary. One can always invoke the possible, but non-provable argument, that the story was implanted in Darren's mind to act as a trigger for Gaynor to release her account.

2. Gaynor's sighting

Gaynor's story is completely different. She was a different type of witness, one who appeared to the investigators to be a truthful and reliable girl. Six months of follow-through work did nothing to minimise their opinion. Also she maintained consistency in her account.

Apart from these points there are comparisons with other UFO events of which it is unlikely that Gaynor had any knowledge, and she brings out minor, but significant details such as the object which departed into a cloud and apparently used it as a camouflage route for escape. The hypnosis testimony, and the opinions of Joe Keeton, only strengthened our firm conviction that she has really experienced a lengthy and detailed CE3 event.

As for the dream hypothesis of Mr Keeton, we find this untenable for several reasons:-

- i) The story has no dream-like elements; there are no time breaks, contractions etc.
- ii) Under hypnosis Gaynor recalled no new data. If it had been a dream it would be unlikely she would have total waking recall of it.
- iii) The "dream" did not begin after, but *before* she laid down in the bush. She has clear recall of events prior to this, such as riding her bicycle, and the events began whilst she was still doing this.
- iv) The events did not end when she gashed her leg (which *was* a real event) but continued afterwards. She did not awake.

The investigators can propose no logical explanation for this experience, and feel that it is one of the most evidential cases of its type with which we have dealt.

As a matter of interest it should be pointed out that Gaynor's entities are of a fairly standard, but detailed, type. There are consistent factors there that she could not have "conjured up" without a major background in ufology and this she does not have. Two highly important consistencies concern both the craft and the entity's eyes, since both are mirrored in UK cases within four months, and Gaynor's unpublished story predated these. The craft, or one remarkably similar in many details, was seen by a family in Irlam, Greater Manchester, in September 1976. This was initially landed, and even the underside seen on take-off was similar. Finally the entities

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CREATING ONE'S OWN UFO

CRITIQUE OF A NEW BOOK... *UFOs: A BRITISH VIEWPOINT*

Charles Bowen

THERE was a time when almost everyone who paused to think positively about UFO reports finished up thinking that flying saucers, UFOs, or what you will, were machines bringing visitors from afar. Could they be travellers, explorers, from those other – suspectedly inhospitable – planets of the Solar System or, less hazardously, from inhabited planets of far-flung star systems of the galaxy, or beyond? Back in the 1940s and through to the 1960s, during the time when we all guessed we were living on the threshold of the space age, many of those who liked to consider the UFO reports wondered if the objects were space ships. After all they were reported as performing astonishing manoeuvres and – so it was whispered, when security was “leaked” – occasionally giving returns on electronic surveillance (radar) and counter measures equipment. The inference from all this was that they were metallic objects, held together with nuts, bolts and welds, and driven by sophisticated power units at present beyond the grasp of earthmen. Indeed, if some of the letters and unsolicited articles submitted to *Flying Saucer Review* are anything to go by, there must be thousands who still cling to such beliefs.

With regard to such matters *Flying Saucer Review* has always endeavoured to keep an open mind and, as we are in effect a platform for the UFO debate we have not shirked the responsibility of pointing to new channels of thought when the old ones have apparently fallen flat.¹ However care needs to be exercised in this process, for we dare not commit ourselves lest we find ourselves “out on a limb.” Dr. Pierre Guérin’s law on ufology states quite simply: “In ufology, any law is immediately falsified by subsequent sightings just as soon as it is formulated.”² The authors **Jenny Randles** and **Peter Warrington** of UFO Investigators’ Network (UFOIN), seem to be uneasily aware of this inescapable law in their new book **UFOs: A British Viewpoint** (published by Robert Hale, London, 249 pages, hardcover, price £5.25 net) although they seem to be unaware that it was put forward by Dr. Guérin more than 20 years ago. They appear to have committed themselves to a radically new theory although in the final chapter they belatedly push the door ajar as an escape route:—

“Perhaps *real* UFOs exist in addition to the... UFOs we have just postulated.”

The book is a brave new work in which the authors summarize the subject, outline its position in society and the efforts made here and there by

amateurs to present ufology in a responsible manner:—

“The great problem is that UFO investigation is the province of anyone who wishes to do it. There are no qualifications in the subject, and experience is the only means of becoming proficient.”

There is an excellent summing-up of media relations in which the possibilities of working together with the local press and local radio stations are discussed. These of course are rapidly growing outlets with a keen interest in items of local human interest and, as a by-product of the dissemination of news, could promote the collection of fresh information. This is, healthily, a far cry from the frantic “publicity seeking” against which FSR has railed for so long.

The authors then present their classification of UFO cases – a system extended and developed from that proposed by Dr. J. Allen Hynek – which is used in classification of UFOIN investigations. They present copious examples from their own and UFOIN’s work, and from a number of other sources, all carefully referenced. Some of their re-classifications are interesting, particularly the “transient effects” of CEI. However, when we moved on to CEII I feel I must take issue with one statement. This is in Chapter 8 (“Close Encounters: 2, with Semi-permanent Effects – CEII”) where, deploring the dearth of cases involving major physical effects they complain “... there are reports on record, although few seem to be of unquestionable veracity – though one or two from abroad are certainly interesting if nothing else...” That curt dismissal closes with a reference to *The Strange Case of Dr. “X”* in FSR Special Issue No. 3 of 1969 as an example. It so happens that the case of Dr. “X” (his name was withheld because he is a medical officer of health in the district where he lives in South Eastern France) involved UFO encounters for his baby son and himself, stigmata-like physical effects, spectacular healing of serious disabilities and subsequent poltergeist effects and so on. The case was investigated by that doyen of the world’s researchers and thinkers on UFOs, Aimé Michel, aided by Dr. Pierre Guérin and a number of scientists of various specialities. These responsible researchers were convinced of the veracity of the case which was of the utmost interest – one of the most interesting and detailed cases ever published by FSR – and in which the after-effects on the witnesses were under surveillance for several years.³