

September 17, I could not properly perceive any "structure", as the object went past us too rapidly. However, I know that I saw what I saw. (And I could not have hoped for a better co-witness than Mr "X", because of his claims of extensive experience and his markedly sceptical attitude.

Whatever his subsequent claims may have been, I can state emphatically that he had been very scared indeed!

Mr "X" Questioned (Report By Paul Whitehead)

I (Paul Whitehead) subsequently had the opportunity to interrogate Mr "X", firstly by telephone, and later face-to-face at a meeting in November 1989. His statements to me generally confirmed Mrs Goold's version, but he said he believed that the "light" had simply "gone out" in the road immediately after "an object had shot out of it", and had moved off past the car.

At our meeting in November 1989 Mr "X" still expressed his complete amazement at the case. And he also told me that when he had reached down for his camera he had been *absolutely frozen by fear* (rather than merely *immobilized* by an hypothetical exterior force). "I was terrified", he admitted.

In talking to me, Mr "X" discounted the suggestion (apparently advanced by somebody) that the thing had been "mist lit up by the lights of a car coming from the opposite direction", or that it had been a case of "ball-lightning". He said: "It was an unidentified object. Had it been a car passing through a patch of mist, it would have made a noise as it passed us, just as any other car would. *But the only sound was a 'whoosh'!*"

And he continued: "Rita Goold stopped the car, and wound down her window. And out of the light came a vehicle which moved past us very rapidly, on our right-hand side. It all happened very quickly, and I think that after that the light just disappeared".

I asked him: "What sort of vehicle was it?"

He replied: "A low, dark shape, like a *Jaguar* car."

"So, what was it?", I pressed.

— "*Something pretending to be a car. Something that was able to manipulate mind and matter*". (This is a theory that has been mentioned, *inter alia*, in John Keel's book *SUPERSPECTRUM*).

He went on: "Yes — possibly Rita served as a *catalyst*. We had been engaged in some psychic activities that evening. Yes — I did think that the things bouncing around in the back of the car were being affected by a force of some sort — possibly a force connected

with our own psychical research, or connected with 'negative forces'. Perhaps the UFO was even a 'thought form'. I have tried to convince myself that the thing which came out of the light was a car, but I can't. There was no car headlight beam. Though the object did have small lights around it".

Mr "X" confirmed that he had never seen a UFO before.

POSTSCRIPT BY PAUL WHITEHEAD

Mrs Rita Goold, whom I have known for several months, is very highly reputed as "a psychic specializing in materializations". She has had many unusual and extraordinary experiences in her life (and some of these have even been observed by her passenger, Mr "X").

Following upon the incident of September 17, 1989, Rita Goold had another extremely bizarre experience near her own home (outside Leicester), upon which it may be possible to report in due course in FSR. Briefly, it can be said that *she observed a flash of blue light coming out of "a man". Some hours later, she recovered consciousness, and found herself driving her car!*

Mrs Goold has since been hypnotized (in the presence of Mr "X"), and Mr "X" himself has described some details of the hypnotic session. *The contents of the hypnosis session appeared to indicate that Mrs Goold had been taken aboard a craft of some sort, and had sat in a seat there watching a screen on which were portrayed scenes of both past events and future events.* (It may be possible in due course to prepare a full report on this for FSR.)

Meanwhile, this concludes my account of a very strange and unusual experience which was reported to have occurred to two people in Britain. At the moment of writing (December 1989) both of them are still shaken by it.

NOTES & REFERENCES BY EDITOR, FSR

- (1) For a completely identical case, in which objects inside a car were seen to "jump about" at the moment when a UFO was being sighted, see the experience of Miss Mary Freeman, as described on page 2 of FSR 33/4 in Mr George Wingfield's article "Did Avebury UFO Produce The Silbury Hill Corn Circles?"
- (2) We have recently received reports of two different cases, in Russia, in which the percipient made some sort of telepathic contact with a UFO. In one of the cases, the percipient pleaded with it "that we should each go our way and leave the other in peace". (See "A Hunter's Experience", on page 15 of FSR 35/3, and "The KGB And Encounters of the Third Kind", on page 7 of this issue.

PHYSIOLOGICAL EFFECTS AND THE UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT PHENOMENA: UFOMD

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ABSTRACT

Intense luminous unidentified flying object phenomena are reported to produce physiological effects on humans. What appears to be a conglomeration of health complaints is actually a logical progression of

clinical symptoms possibly related to the phenomena. The exact mechanism of these physiological effects is unknown. In order to establish proof of a causal relationship, epidemiological methods should be employed.

KEY-WORDS

UFO, intense luminous unidentified flying objects, atmospheric phenomena, medical injuries, physiological effects, and epidemiology.

Many theories of unidentified flying objects (UFOs) have been established by conjecture, with little attention given to criteria that would establish or reject a causal relationship. As a result, pragmatic thought now classifies UFOs as being either extraterrestrial, non-extraterrestrial, or non-existent. No satisfactory explanation has yet been determined, as a result of a paucity of qualitative and quantitative data. The issue becomes even more complicated when the phenomena are associated with extraterrestrial occupants and abductions.

Associated with the phenomena of UFOs is the manifestation of physiological effects which appear to occur in three clinical stages. These symptoms have been reviewed and reported elsewhere by the author, but are reiterated in this paper for convenience:^{1, 2}

Stage 1: Most observations occur at night, and the common initial complaint is the observation of a very intense dazzling luminous atmospheric phenomenon at least 150 metres from the observer. The light is blinding and causes the individual to turn away. Eventually the light intensity may subside, and a rapid paralysis ensues. The paralysis frequently experienced by the observer is rather unique. If standing, the observer does not fall, in the vast majority of the cases, but remains fixed toward the luminous phenomenon. The mechanisms of the paralysis are not known, or related to fear. The paralysis is very selective. Despite the incapacity of the upper and lower extremities, visual movements are conserved. Breathing is reported to be somewhat labored. Speech is not possible. A tachycardia is usually reported, perhaps due to the initial fear produced by incapacitation. Sensory nerves are conserved. Sometimes the observer hears a pulsing sound which seems to "fill the entire head". The sounds detected by the observer may be the so-called microwave "hearing effect". After a short period of time, the observer becomes calm and sometimes experiences parapsychological manifestations in the form of telepathic communication.

Stage 2. As the luminous phenomenon disappears there is rapid resolution of the paralysis. The observer may be aware of an unaccountable time-loss and may complain in the next hours of nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, conjunctivitis, and diarrhea. First and second degree skin burns have been reported. Unusual skin markings or peeling and hair loss may occur in the following days. Sometimes there are no untoward effects in the second stage.

Stage 3: The individual reports chronic nightmares and insomnia. The gastrointestinal effects appear to resolve quickly. The skin and hair pathology may last several months. The individual may seek medical assistance, a support group, or remain silent. Hypnosis has been reported to be useful in analyzing the event. Many victims of this experience undergo severe psychosocial changes which may be contributive to post-traumatic stress.

Alleged abducted patients state they have experienced medical examinations by aliens. These evaluations are reported to be extremely crude and are characterized by pain and fear. The patient is usually placed in a horizontal position on a table. Often pregnancy, or a mysterious disappearance of an alleged fetus is reported.

Despite the fact that we have collected medical data regarding this phenomenon, we have not established an etiology or a precise understanding of the patho-

physiology. Unfortunately, ufologists have, a priori, assigned other unproven etiologies. Because these hypotheses are not appropriately established, they tend to wear thin and various pitfalls of methodology occur. For instance, an investigator may believe that a victim experiencing "medical injuries" should have as many medical tests as possible. This may result in changes of sensitivity and of specificity in diagnosing the problem. In fact, if 20 unrelated tests are applied to a healthy population, more than 60% of the individuals tested will have one or more test results outside the normal range! Thus, we generate our own confounding factors!

We can better understand the physiological effects of this phenomenon. How can this be achieved? The consistency, strength, specificity, temporal relationship, and coherence of the association of the clinical stages previously described merits attention in establishing causation.³ Much of medicine is learned through observation, and many diseases have been understood well before the advent of complicated technology. The resulting physiological manifestations associated with UFOs produce many of the symptoms that are seen with other pathological afflictions. Before establishing the etiology of the phenomenon, which is the most difficult and may be unresolvable as in the case of cancer, it is first of all necessary to establish specific physiological associations with the phenomenon in a methodological manner.

Epidemiological techniques must be applied to the physiological events of the UFO phenomenon. If not, we will become stuck in a quagmire of useless data. The abduction cases appear to offer the best examples.

In conclusion, I would like to state that many unknown diseases have been elucidated from similar clinical symptoms that occur with the UFO phenomenon. What is needed is a well organized medical epidemiological study in Ufology. We have the data and the technology to accomplish the task. I will throw the first stone, and state my willingness to organize this formidable task. In a future paper, I will give examples of methodology and direction. I do not promise any spectacular revelations, but it will be surprising to see what we already know, but could not perceive.

The great American poet Robert Frost seems to sum it up in these words:-

"We dance round in a ring and suppose.

But the Secret sits in the middle and knows".

April 29, 1990

REFERENCES:

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3. *A Study Guide to Epidemiology and Biostatistics:* Richard F. Morton and J. Richard Hebel, Aspen Publishers: 1984.

