having prised the lid off such a veritable can of worms!)

Here is their Report:-

## DAILY TELEGRAPH, October 13, 1990 (page 7).

BELGIAN UFO SPOTTERS ARE 'LEFT SEEING STARS'

by Adrian Berry, Science Correspondent

THOUSANDS of Belgians have reported UFO sightings unaware that they are looking at the planet Mars, a British astronomer said yesterday.

More than 2,600 people claim to have seen a strange triangular object with three huge lights hovering in the night sky. Pilots of two F-16, fighters, scrambled to investigate, reported that it accelerated away from them as they approached.

But Ian Ridpath, Editor-in-Chief of *Popular Astronomy*, claimed the alien presence was nothing more than an illusion created by *Mars*, now unusually bright and close to the Earth, and by certain other stars.

"I don't want to say anything rude about the ignorance of Belgians" — he said — "since people in many countries have mistaken *Mars* for a UFO.

"What they are seeing is almost certainly a triangle in the night sky in the constellation of Taurus, formed by *Mars* and two other bright stars, one of which is probably the bright orange star *Aldebaran*, 65 light-years away".

"The description by the fighter pilots of the object accelerating away is exactly consistent with what a planet or a star would appear to do. This illusion has been the cause of thousands of false UFO sightings."

"Next month, Mars will be even brighter, and for this reason NATIONAL ASTRONOMY WEEK is being held to educate the British public about the night sky and ensure that they don't make idiots of themselves like the Belgians."

Other astronomers agree with Ian Ridpath that people need educating, noting that, during blackouts at the time of the 1972 miners' strike, dozens of people looked at the stars and demanded to know why "those people" were still getting electricity.

Jimmy Carter, the former U.S. president, once mistook the bright planet *Venus* for a UFO, and during the war several pilots tried to chase the two planets, *Mars* and *Venus*, thinking they were enemy aircraft.

#### NOTE BY EDITOR, FSR

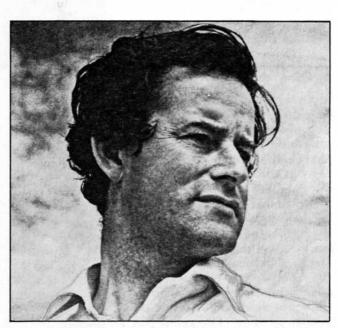
Our readers will no doubt recall with admiration the sagacity and skill displayed by Ian Ridpath a few years ago at the time of the absurd story about a UFO having been seen in Rendlesham Forest, Suffolk. It was he who solved the matter by pointing out that what had been seen by the American Commanding Officer and other U.S.A.F. officers was simply the Orford Ness lighthouse flashing through the trees. These American imbeciles, some of whom had already been stationed there for months or even several years, had not even noticed the lighthouse until that evening, and did not even know that it was there! So naturally the poor fools concluded that it was a "UFO"!

### THE CROP CIRCLES IN 1990

By George Wingfield, M.A. Hons. (Natural Sciences), FSR Consultant

The Crop Circles in 1990 excelled themselves in every conceivable way, and, indeed, in many ways which could never have been foreseen. The total number of Circles recorded was far in excess of the previous year and most likely exceeds 1000, though this is only a guess. Unprecedented new shapes such as "dumb-bells", rectangles, triangles, "scrolls" and semicircular rings were found. The size of some individual Circles also far exceeded what had been recorded before. But most staggering of all was the appearance of elaborate formations, which were called pictograms, —some up to 150 yards long—, whose complexity and varying combinations of certain distinctive features, exhibited an articulateness which the Circles had never previously shown.

This rapid growth in the complexity of the Circles during the year 1990 was so marked that none but the most hardened self-deluding sceptic could possibly seek to deny it. It is an aspect which had been clearly apparent in earlier years, but one which accelerated with seemingly increased urgency in 1990. Theories which claim to explain the Circles cannot afford to ignore this unmistakable evolution, however unwelcome it may be to those explainers whose fixed ideas have failed to appreciate the real nature of this phenomenon. Nevertheless it is true to say that an explanation of what is happening, in terms generally acceptable and understood, seems as remote as ever in 1990. But the idea that some intelligence is at work has now gained considerable ground.



George Wingfield works for IBM. He is a founder member of the Centre For Crop Circle Studies (P.O. Box 44, Petersfield, Hants.).

The first 1990 Circles started in late April and early May to the north of Devizes. In addition to a plethora of small circles, several large ringed Circles appeared in the young crops. All of these exhibited very precise narrow rings, usually 6 to 9 inches wide,

of a variety not seen in earlier years. The first ever triple-ringed circle had appeared in late 1989; now we had two more of these near Devizes, one with 4 small satellites on the second ring. These giants were

all accompanied by "grapeshot".

The largest of the giant triple-ringed circles was one which I discovered during an aerial survey to have "grown" an extra outer (fourth) concentric ring one week after it first formed. A few days later the first recorded "four-rings-at-once" circle (with 4 satellites on the second ring) appeared less than a mile away. This reinforced the idea, often expressed by dowsers of the Circles, such as Richard Andrews, that it is the developing dowsable pattern at the time of formation which determines the actual pattern of the resulting circle. Immediately adjacent to this prodigy, a new "Celtic Cross", with four satellites on its widely-spaced single ring, appeared a month later. One satellite was neatly positioned at one of the two points where this orbital ring intersected the outer ring of the older formation.

On May 18 the first Cheesefoot Head circle of 1990 appeared in the Punchbowl there, as has become almost traditional. This was unlike other circles in having an internal concentric band of standing corn. There soon followed other circles such as two triple ringers (with wide rings, each about 4 ft thick, quite unlike the Wiltshire ones), one having the inner rings in the form of segmented arcs, which had never previously been seen. But at the same time even more curious geometric patterns were starting to appear nearby. On May 23 the first of the "pictogram" series of Circle formations was found between Chilcomb and Cheesefoot Head.

The basic component of these formations is a "dumb-bell" consisting of two circles joined by a straight avenue of flattened crop, as can be seen in the photographs. This first one also had the feature of two narrow parallel rectangles on either side of its avenue, and these were often repeated, in pairs or singly, in subsequent pictograms. Other features, such as semicircular rings concentric with one circle, followed, and many of the series had one or other of the dumb-bell circles ringed. These pictograms constituted an extraordinary development in the circle saga, and again and again cereologists shook their heads in disbelief as they repeated the familiar litany for 1990, "Never seen anything like this before . . ."

Roughly every week or so a further pictogram appeared near Cheesefoot Head (with one at Litchfield, an old circles site 17 miles north, unvisited since 1985) until Pictogram 7 on July 6. Many of these incorporated a tractor tramline as the dumb-bell's shaft, making it into part of the design. This unmistakable characteristic, though not the invariable case, confirmed a frequent tendency of many circle formations, such as quincunxes in previous years, to align themselves with the tramlines, though this was questioned by some observers. The fact that the agency which causes the formations is "aware" of the tramlines, and makes use of them, must cast serious doubt on the notion that the circles-forming agency descends randomly from the sky.

domly from the sky.

In June John Haddington organised a circles watch lasting ten days between Silbury Hill and Wansdyke. During this, the "trilling" noise was heard again by several people and some of the observations are described in the first issue of *The Cereologist*. To increase the chances of seeing a circle form, the watch group consulted medium Isabelle Kingston, who claims to have received many channelled communications relating to the circles. After doing some map-dowsing she

recommended that the fields below the great tumulus, Adam's Grave, near Alton Barnes, be watched, since she said that circles would form just there. It was not a place where circles had formed previously, and was nearly two miles from the nearest of last year's circles. This was the only place which Isabelle specified. As a result several nights were spent by the group watching from Adam's Grave for circles which, however, failed to appear during the course of our vigil.

A month later, on July 12, the most remarkable, and what was to become the best known ever, set of circles appeared in the wheatfield below Adam's Grave at Alton Barnes. This spectacular giant pictogram, the eighth to form, is illustrated in my photograph. It consisted basically of two dumb-bell formations together in line, with several additional circles, about 130 yards long overall. The major circles in the dumb-bells, either ringed or plain, were all swept clockwise (as with Hampshire pictograms), but these exhibited protruding features never previously seen. Variously referred to as "keys" and "claws", they resembled rudimentary hands with either two or three "fingers".

At the same time a further similar giant pictogram was discovered near Milk Hill close by. This too had "keys" or "claws" protruding from the principal circles. Both giant pictograms pointed directly away from the Alton Barnes White Horse, carved in chalk on the slopes of Milk Hill, and both lay approximately three-quarters of a mile from it. It is surely no coincidence that the White Horse, for which the Circles have always shown a marked predilection, as at Westbury and Cherhill in particular, symbolises the gateway between the physical world and the psychic, or metaphysical, domain.

A villager in Alton Barnes, half a mile away, had heard a strange humming noise from East Field on the night before the great pictogram was found there, and the village dogs had all started barking. Other stories were of cars in the village which would not start that morning. The beauty and mystery of this huge labyrinthine hieroglyph drew visitors like a magnet. Many people travelled from places all over the country to Alton Barnes during the next month to see this new wonder of the world. Their sense of excitement and awe was often quite tangible to others who were there and few of them doubted that this was some intelligently produced, but obscure, symbolic message. Many of these visitors seemed deeply affected by what they found, and some observed that this pilgrimage had all the makings of a new religion. Farmer Tim Carson wisely cashed in on this fervour and curiosity by charging £1 admission to the field, thereby netting over £5000.

In view of the massive press coverage of these events, there is no doubt that the Government was fully aware of, if not alarmed by, public reaction to such things. The Army were seen to take a great interest in the new circles, and much activity, especially with helicopters, was observed in the Silbury Hill area in the following weeks. The Military also became closely involved with Colin Andrews' and Pat Delgado's "Operation Blackbird" circles watch at Bratton, which ran from July 23 for 3 weeks. Sponsored by BBC TV and Nippon TV, this was a hi-tech attempt, like the previous year's White Crow, to film a circle forming. At times, however, it risked turning into a media circus.

On July 25, amid fanfares of media hype, the *Black-bird* team announced via the BBC that they had video recorded "a major event" — flashing orange lights in the sky above a field where a large new formation of circles had appeared during the night. But within a



The celebrated 'Giant Pictogram' at Alton Barnes, found on July 12, 1990. A double dumb-bell formation with 'keys' and 'claws', and about 130 yards long! © George Wingfield

few hours, the crowning glory of success crumbled into dust when it was found that the roughly fashioned 6 circles were no more than an elaborate hoax, and that the unknown deceivers had left an ouija board and wooden cross at dead centre of each.

Information reaching CCCS, from a source which I cannot name, shows that the hoax was perpetrated by a special detachment set up by the Army for this purpose. It was officially inspired; it was practised at night; it used known circles configurations, and it was executed with military precision. The purpose was to defuse a situation which verged on public Circles-hysteria. And it was to a degree successful. But why ouija boards and crosses? Any other hoaxer (and there were several claimants) would hardly have left tell-tale objects behind in the circles. The Army, since it could never admit what it had done, had to leave behind indications of a hoax, in case Andrews and Delgado proclaimed it genuine, thereby redoubling popular enthusiasm. The objects chosen were meant to point to "New Agers" and occultists as the perpetrators, suggesting that really they made all the circles. Army boots and a field marshal's baton would have been rather more appropriate in this particular case.

To some extent the operation had the desired result, and the Sunday papers soon vied with each other to proclaim that all the circles were hoaxes. The Mail on Sunday irresponsibly carried instructions on how to make one's own circle, and another tabloid produced Fred Day (59), who had been making circles for 47 years. There, at last, the mystery was solved,

and they laid claim to the £10,000 offered by another paper for a solution! Such facile reasoning demonstrated little else than the idiocy of certain journalists.

Meanwhile the genuine circles continued unabated. On the same day as the Bratton hoax, an extraordinary set of new circles appeared near Beckhampton, 15 miles away. These included "scrolls" — circles joined by a sinuous flattened path like a reversed S, and the first reported triangles. All were strongly dowsable. The Army showed much interest in these, photographing them from a small unmanned helicopter known as a WISP. This it omitted to do at the Bratton hoax, for obvious reasons.

More pictograms were to follow the amazing Alton Barnes formation. On July 27 a similar but even larger double dumb-bell pictogram, 150 yards long, was found one mile from Silbury Hill, away from which it pointed almost exactly. This was placed precisely half way between West and East Kennet Long Barrows, and, unlike the other giant pictograms, lay athwart the tractor tramlines. Despite several hoaxed circles which various jokers were now producing, there is no suggestion that this or any of the other pictograms was a hoax. And it is reported that *Operation Blackbird* did eventually catch a real circle forming, very rapidly, on its video recording equipment.

On August 4th a great new pictogram appeared at Cheesefoot Head, scarcely forty yards from the second pictogram which had arrived two months earlier. Three times as long, this extraordinary cipher included a wide ring enclosing two long rectangular



Another 'Giant pictogram' found — also on July 12, 1990 — near Milk Hill, Stanton St. Bernard (11/2 miles distant from the first 'Giant Pictogram' shown above). © George Wingfield

parallel "boxes" on either side of its main "avenue". This striking feature had appeared earlier in a less elaborate pictogram near Pepperbox Hill outside Salisbury. Three other plain circles and four arcs, symmetrically disposed along the main axis, completed the design. There was "tremendous energy throughout this configuration" according to Lucy Pringle, a psychic, and this was independently confirmed by George de Trafford and Janet Trevisan, who perceived a "domed disk of energy" about 12 ft off the ground above the middle circle.

From June onwards CCCS received scattered reports of circles from all over England and some from Scotland. Many were from places where circles had never previously been found and sometimes they were of formations not previously known, such as a circle with seven satellites at Bickington, Devon. This was found the day after a large bullet-shaped UFO, with a line of coloured lights flashing in sequence below it, had been seen travelling slowly and silently over Bickington towards Haytor. Also a set of circles was found for the first time near the ancient henge of Wandlebury near Cambridge. Like the first circles near Silbury Hill in 1988, these were positioned on the "Mary current", a line of dowsable energy which runs right across England and is described in the book "The Sun and the Serpent" by Hamish Miller and Paul Broadhurst (Pendragon Press, 1989).

In July and August pictogram formations were found near Salisbury and in Sussex, and a curious triangular formation of circles joined by flattened pathways except on one side, was found near Duns in Scotland. This, like many circles, appeared close to an ancient burial mound which stood just 70 feet away. Large numbers of circles were reported from the north of England, notably near Wigan. And at least forty circles were reported in Norfolk, not previously known for its crop circles.

Some of the Norfolk circles were accompanied by UFO reports. That which appeared at Whitehorse Common, near Swafield, on July 26, was preceded by the sighting the previous night of an orange light which went down near where the circle was subsequently found. A strange formation of circles at Hopton, consisting of a ringed circle with ten satellites spaced around it, was found in the place where a great red light the size of a full Moon was observed descending into a field. This object was said to have had a Saturn-like ring around it, and blinked out on reaching the ground. Several people saw this and it was reported to the police. The actual position of the circles is again on, or extremely close to, the "Mary current" line through Hopton.

As the circle season drew to a close with the August harvest, reports arrived with increasing frequency, due to some extent to the fact that many circles were only discovered during harvesting. The momentum of the phenomenon during 1990 was such that it seemed impossible that events would cease solely due to a lack of standing corn. Indeed circles were still being reported from the north of England, where the harvest is a few weeks later, long after the corn was cut in the

south.

It is certainly becoming evident that the Circles are just the outwardly visible sign of some much greater process that is at work, and which is only dimly perceived by the majority of us. According to the dowsers and the psychics who are involved in Circles research, the energies which they detect have been continuously increasing over the last few years, one effect of which is the increasing complexity of the Circle formations. Circles generally form at the intersection of ley-energy lines and these lines themselves are said to be multiplying and strengthening. This proliferation of the dowsable lines is said to provide an increasingly complex blueprint for potential circle formations or pictograms. But the action of the agency which traces out that pattern in the crop, producing the visible circle, and what precipitates that event, remains little understood.

This interpretation of events might be accepted by the materialist were he able to detect these dowsable lines with scientific instruments, but in wishing to do this he mistakes the true nature of the lines. Dowsable energies are subtle energies whose essential characteristic is their interaction with living things. As such, they directly affect the consciousness of the individual, rather than just his body, and thereby produce dowsing reactions, and often other psychic interactions as well. Insofar as we are dealing with energies which affect consciousness, these may also embody symbolic forms which are capable of various interpretations. Given that this is the nature of this phenomenon, it is not unexpected then that the formations in the fields may also exhibit a symbolic content.

It is the nature of these subtle energies and of the intelligences, or consciousnesses, which appear to be manipulating them, which we must understand in order to unravel the mystery of the Circles. Meanwhile we can only wait to see what new wonders will unfold in the cornfields in 1991.

September 1990

From newspaper EL MUNDO (Spain), May 7, 1990. (Translation from Spanish. G.C.)

# UFO LEAVES CIRCULAR MARK 4 METRES WIDE ON AN ARGENTINE FOOTBALL PITCH

Report from Buenos Aires:

Residents of El Carmen, 60 kms. to the south of Buenos Aires, insisted yesterday that a UFO had left a circular mark more than 4 metres in diameter last Friday (May 4) on the turf of a small football field.

A commission consisting of 35 residents of the area attended at the Police Station yesterday to testify to the phenomenon.

Raúl Marozzi, a 20-year-old youth, was preparing to take part in a football match there with friends, and arrived at 3.00 p.m. local time, half an hour before the start. According to his statement, he was "paralyzed" by the sight of "a very powerful light that blinded me".

He went on to state that, as soon as he was able to react, he ran to call people living in the neighbourhood, who for the space of an hour were able to observe the "spectacle" of the hovering UFO.

Luis Burgos, an expert from the Argentine UFO Association (AAO) explained that "on this occasion, unlike what usually happens, instead of being scorched, the grass changed colour to an intense green — almost bluish".

He added that what happened was similar to "an accelerated process of photosynthesis", being the result of the presence of the unidentified flying object above the football pitch, for more than one hour, at a height of 20 metres.

The last sighting of a UFO in the Buenos Aires area was at the end of 1988.

A UFO also left a similar mark on the grass in the General San Martín Park at La Plata, capital city of the Province of Buenos Aires.

(Credit and thanks to J. Plana Crivillén, FSR Consultant, of Barcelona.)

### THE "PICTOGRAMS"

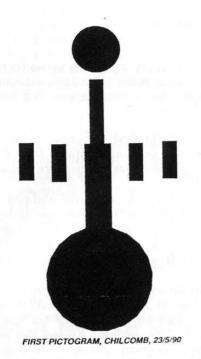
Over our fair realm of Merrie England, the whirl-winds, or the dust-devils, or the hedgehogs, or the plasma vortices (maybe a grand combination of all of these, cavorting in concert) have once more been up to their merrie and prankish tricks. We give, opposite, an excellent selection of the images, as furnished by Mr Wingfield to illustrate his article. But FSR is a tiny journal which cannot compete with the great publishing houses with all their resources for colour printing, and we urge all those who wish to delve more deeply and study the wonderful aerial photographs to go straight to the specialized books:-

 Delgado & Andrews: Circular Evidence. (Bloomsbury Pub. Co., London, 1989.) Superb colour photographs.

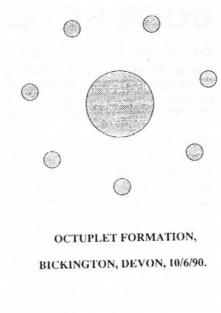
2. Delgado & Andrews: *The Latest Evidence*. (Bloomsbury, 1990.) More superb colour photographs.

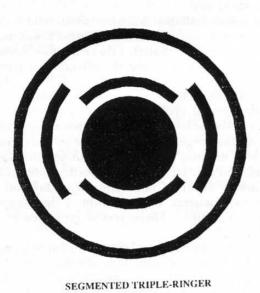
3. Ralph Noyes (Editor): The Crop Circle Enigma. (Gateway Books, 1990.) Still more superb colour photographs, plus (some might think marred by) a plethora of "wiseacring" and speculation which surely cannot all be expected to yield an answer.

EDITOR, FSR.



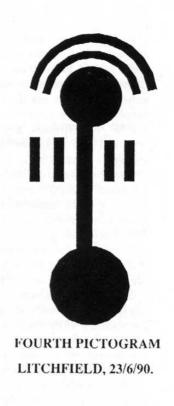




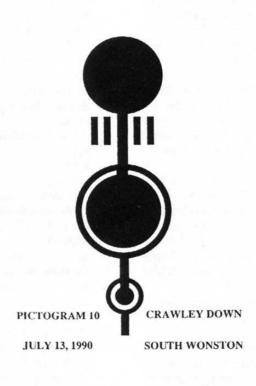


CHEESEFOOT HEAD, JUNE 1990





FIFTH LONGWOOD ESTATE, 28/6/90





PICTOGRAM 11 JULY 1990 near PEPPERBOX HILL, SALISBURY

### **BOOK REVIEW**

### by Paul Whitehead, FSR Consultant

THE WATCHERS: THE SECRET DESIGN BEHIND UFO ABDUCTION, by RAYMOND E. FOWLER, Foreword by WHITLEY STRIEBER. Published by BANTAM BOOKS, 666 Fifth Avenue, New York 10103. Hardback. Price US\$19.95 excluding postage. 1990. (NOTE: BANTAM BOOKS in London stated in November 1990 that they have no copies available here and they do not appear to be contemplating selling it here.)

This book bothers me. It brings us up to date with the story of Betty Andreasson; how she has apparently been visited by aliens on a regular basis since the age of seven; how they planted a series of messages in her mind, presumably for release at key times; and how they are allegedly involved in genetic experimentation in order to save mankind as a species.

Now, says the author, is the time for the final and earthshattering part of the aliens' message to be released to mankind. The message can only be produced under hypnosis — and if true is somewhat alarming.

This is the third book about Betty Andreasson, and Fowler hints that there could be a fourth. Her story goes beyond the usual thresholds of high strangeness that have been established in the typical "abductee" scenario. It introduces us to concepts of paraphysics with which few readers will be familiar — humans turned into balls of energy, existing as intelligent spheres of light inside a UFO, while Betty — herself turned to pure energy — looks on.

The descriptions, and what could be described as spiritual or religious knowledge imparted by the aliens in control of all this, makes interesting reading.

But then author Fowler himself claims to have been a human chosen for abduction, and speculates he may be on a co-mission with Andreasson to impart alien knowledge about the state of mankind to the world. The Andreasson story alone stretches one's credibility to the limits; to overlap that with another abduction story concerning the author seems both self-indulgent on Fowler's part and unnecessary.

Some British readers, fed on a diet of plasma vortices and weather-fronts as explanations for UFOs and encounters with their "ufonauts", might baulk at this book. And that would be a shame, for it has much to commend it to the researcher and to all those interested in psychology or parapsychology.

Betty Andreasson is a committed Christian — and Fowler indicates he also might be. Christians would probably be shocked at what emerges from their story, but researchers into *Out-of-the-Body Experiences* and *Near-Death-Experiences* (*OBEs and NDEs*) would be fascinated.

For some of the descriptions of Betty's encounters, and the messages imparted, are strikingly similar to those experienced by people who have "died" and later been revived or have "woken up" in the mortuary! Fowler acknowledges this, and writes that Betty has had several *OBEs*.

What common factor could there be between what apparently happens to some "dead" people in an *NDE*, and to fully live people who are "abducted"?

Are the messages imparted similar to the "secret third part" of the message given to the children at Fátima in 1917 by a vision of the Virgin Mary, and since then allegedly hidden away in the vaults of the Vatican?

Is there also a similarity to the messages being given, or apparently given, to people involved in channelling and automatic writing sessions in various places around the world? Several people — some belonging to occult groups and believing themselves to be possessed of supernormal powers with access to confidential knowledge imparted by "the gods" or

"aliens" — have been attempting to contact "aliens" via these means. They will be disappointed if they discover that Betty Andreasson has been there before them!

But to return to the book. In a typical abduction, the abductee finds himself in a UFO, perhaps undergoes a "medical examination" and is then given knowledge about the state of mankind and the world. He also reports that his world-view has changed, and that he has psychic abilities.

Now, listen to what somebody on the verge of death may experience during an NDE. A typical NDE occurs during the later stages of an OBE. In her book, "Return From Death", published by Arkana Books/Penguin, Margot Grey gives many examples. Here is a composite experience:-

"I was certified dead, my death-certificate had been signed, and I was taken to the mortuary. I was not conscious of any of this, though I do remember reviving in the mortuary and giving the attendant a terrible shock.

During all this I had an experience which has changed my life and given me a number of psychic abilities. I was conscious of floating above my body and of seeing the surgeons as they tried to revive my heart. Then I entered a long dark tunnel through which I moved at tremendous speed, eventually emerging into a beautiful landscape/beautiful building (some experiencers emerge into a landscape, others into a building). There was a great sense of light.

(At this point some experiencers meet people whom they recognise — people who have already died. But at some stage the typical NDE experiencer will meet some "beings" whom he/she may interpret as "God" or "Jesus", or as simple "beings of light". Knowledge is imparted, either through ESP or by the exchange of energy waves passed from "God" to the experiencer; these waves or vibrations can be seen, and give the receiver certain information.

This information is strikingly similar to the messages given to abductees. The experiencer is either given a choice to stay or return to Earth, or is ordered to return to complete some sort of mission. (The abductee, however, is merely returned — there is no choice.)

"It was so beautiful, I did not want to return," is a typical comment. It must be stressed that this is not a wish shared by abductees, however. While under hypnosis they can go through considerable stress, and suffer physical pain, as Betty does.

From the moment when, as she was a child of seven in 1944, she and her father saw small grey beings walk through their front door and take her away (the door was closed!) in a glowing UFO parked close to their house, until whe she was a woman, Betty has been subjected to many "high strangeness" experiences.

In the Middle Ages she would have been burned at the stake as a witch or a religious heretic.

Her case, and those of other abductees, presents us with a challenge. *NDEs* are already the subject of considerable study. More study of some type is required. But if, as Fowler suspects, abductions and *NDEs* take