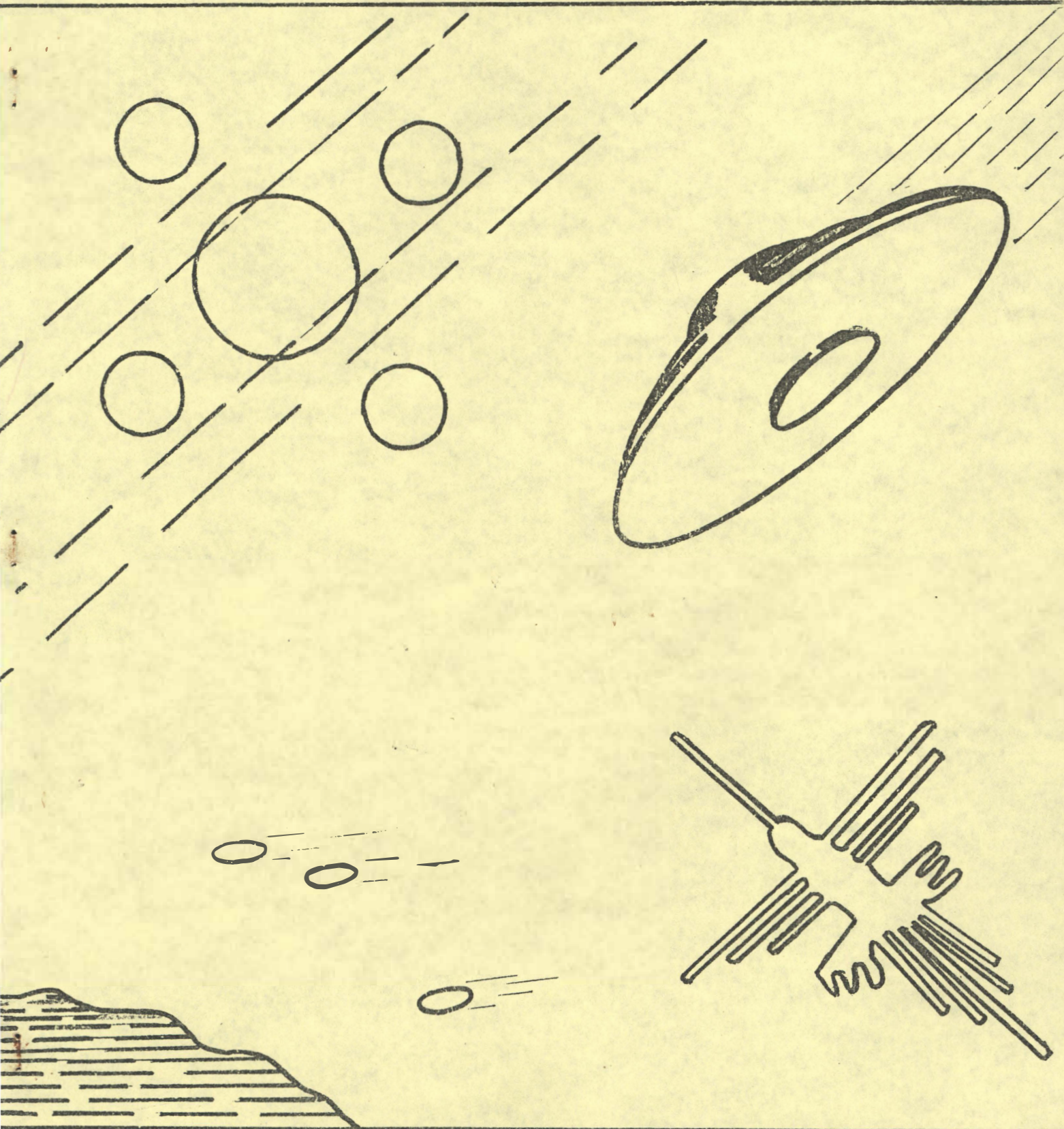


September

«OVNI»

1993



Newsletter of the Phenomenon Research Association

Price £1 incl.pstge. Members: Free

NEWSLETTER: AUGUST 1993

PHENOMENON RESEARCH ASSOCIATION
(Group Leader: Omar Fowler)

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A CONTROVERSIAL MONTH

The apparent lack of co-operation between the CCCS Group (East Midlands) and ourselves has been the subject of some discussion during the past month. Several PRA members have expressed their disquiet over the failure of CCCS to inform individual members (some hold joint membership) of the large Pictogram that appeared at "Charley Knoll" south of Loughborough, Leics. last July.

Tony Caldicott, the East Midlands CCCS Branch Convenor has expressed his concern over the friction that developed over the "Charley Knoll" incident and has suggested a formula that should prevent any future problems arising. The solution could be a "telephone tree" network, whereby a number of local key organisers are telephoned in the event of an incident and they in turn telephone two other members etc.

This system would enable all interested parties to be informed in the quickest possible time and could be the solution to the problem. The system is currently under discussion and should be finalised in time for it to be in operation for the next Crop Circle "season".

The "Charley Knoll" story does not end there however, it seems that for some reason George Wingfield and John Haddington (CCCS) believe that the Pictogram is a hoax. Although dowrsers have reported "energy" at the site, there remains the mystery of a blue estate car that was seen in the area for several nights, although this vehicle was seen after the event. Tony Caldicott is pursuing the investigation and we will no doubt be informed of any developments.

The PRA theory on reactions in the ionosphere causing a powerful charge of energy to follow magnetic flux lines to Earth has now been revised and printed in a new illustrated paper. Copies of this document have been sent a number of well known researchers and Universities world-wide, with an invitation to give their comments. Readers will be kept in touch with our progress in this field.

Edited by Omar Fowler, with contributions from Paul Foster, Jeff Whitear and the Earth & Mind Association, the paper includes five pages of photographs and five pages of diagrams. Copies are available at £4.00 per copy, (postage 50p extra).

ARTHUR CREATES A STIR

Arthur Tomlinson's talk on the "Paranormal" at the Stanley Club last month caused several members to get involved in a prolonged discussion over a number of points made in his audio/visual lecture.

The extensive slide show that accompanied Arthur's talk, illustrated alleged "Ghost" photographs, some which were intriguing and some that had the appearance of plain hoaxes.

There were also slides of strange natural features that had formed in rocks, trees and plants, giving the appearance of faces and animals. This was followed by illustrations of optical illusions, showing how easily the eye can fool the brain, (certainly something to be borne in mind when investigating UFO incidents).

The most controversial presentation was a video, claimed by Arthur to have been shown at the Wembley Arena conference "Global Deception" (9th & 10th January 1993).

The video which had an American commentary, claimed to show the development of "Flying Saucer" craft by Germany during WW2. The claims made in the video were extensive, showing working drawings of the "saucers" manufacture, complete with German language and graphics, including a doubtful "SS" stamp on the document (the SS were storm troops, not aeronautical engineers).

Slides were shown of various "Flying Saucers" with badly drawn crosses and swastikas on the craft. In some cases photographs of the saucer craft sporting a large calibre gun underneath were shown. There were also several slides of the "German Flying Saucers" transposed onto recognisable Nazi wartime scenes. In another slide, the audience were treated to a "swastika" shape imprinted in tree tops (supposedly the Bavarian forest) and photographed from the air. The only minor point was, that in spite of it being rumoured that the 'Hitler Youth' were responsible, the "swastika" was the wrong way around! (I don't think the führer would have been very pleased!)

Your Editor was not impressed, having spent his young war years living almost next to the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough. Where captured German aircraft were taken for evaluation and unusual designs could often be seen flying in the circuit.

At the end of WW2, the Establishment opened its doors to the public and just about everything was on display, including V1's, V2's the latest guided rockets, aircraft and gas turbine engines etc. There was no trace of a "flying saucer"!



Arthur Tomlinson chatting with Claire Upton and Pauline Elliot during the evening break at the Stanley Club



The hoax circle in a barley field at Stanton-by-Dale, Derbys. last month. Note the disturbed crop leading to the circle.

One slide in particular caused a stir and this was a much reproduced "Foo Fighter" photograph, having at various times been labelled as showing them over Germany, the Pacific and even Korea.

In this instance, the photograph was claimed by the video commentator, to show German saucer weapons on test during WW2. However the aircraft shown in company with the balls of light are not German, but almost certainly Japanese (see photo's on following page). The only similar German aircraft with a fixed u/c was the Ju87b (Stuka) and the aircraft shown are definitely not of that type.

Your Editor has taken a particular interest in the subject of "Foo Fighters" and once interviewed an ex-bomber pilot who had flown throughout WW2 and on many occasions had flown Lancaster bombers over Germany. He stated that he had never heard of "Foo Fighters!"

Another flyer who should know something about the subject is Leslie Banks, who has flown extensively with the RAF and before his retirement from the service, commanded a "Vulcan" V bomber squadron. He commented "my understanding of 'Foo Fighters' is that they were strictly a USAF/Pacific phenomenon, sometimes following a B29 bomber across Japan and nearly all the way back to their base".

This last remark has also been borne out by the American author Leonard H. Stringfield, who served with the American Air Force in the Pacific in WW2 and has made similar observations.

It does seem that the "Foo Fighters" did exist and in fact came into close contact with operational aircraft during WW2, but not in the European theatre, only in the Pacific.

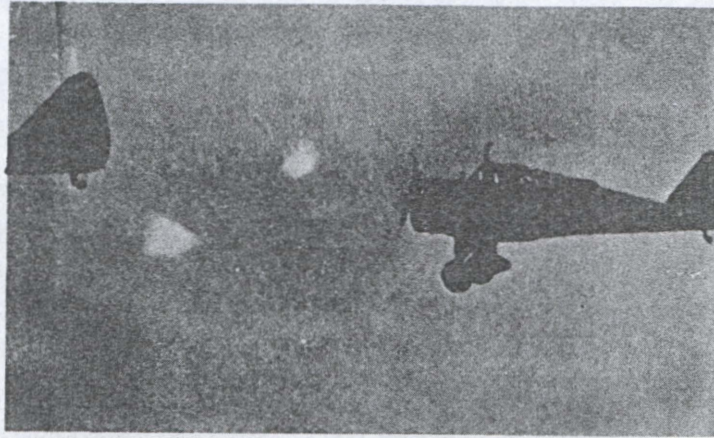
They may have been a type of observation "silver ball" which has been associated with UFO craft and been observed by many witnesses in the past. However it should not be forgotten that "ball lightning" has been observed close to and even inside aircraft in flight!

Ball lightning has been known to appear during thunderstorms and has been associated with high power electricity cables. It has been known to float through a household, passing close to a witness and actually singeing the skin. It may finally disappear into a light socket of some kind or float through an open door or window.

Until there is conclusive evidence about "Foo Fighters", we can only treat the subject as one of the mysteries of WW2.

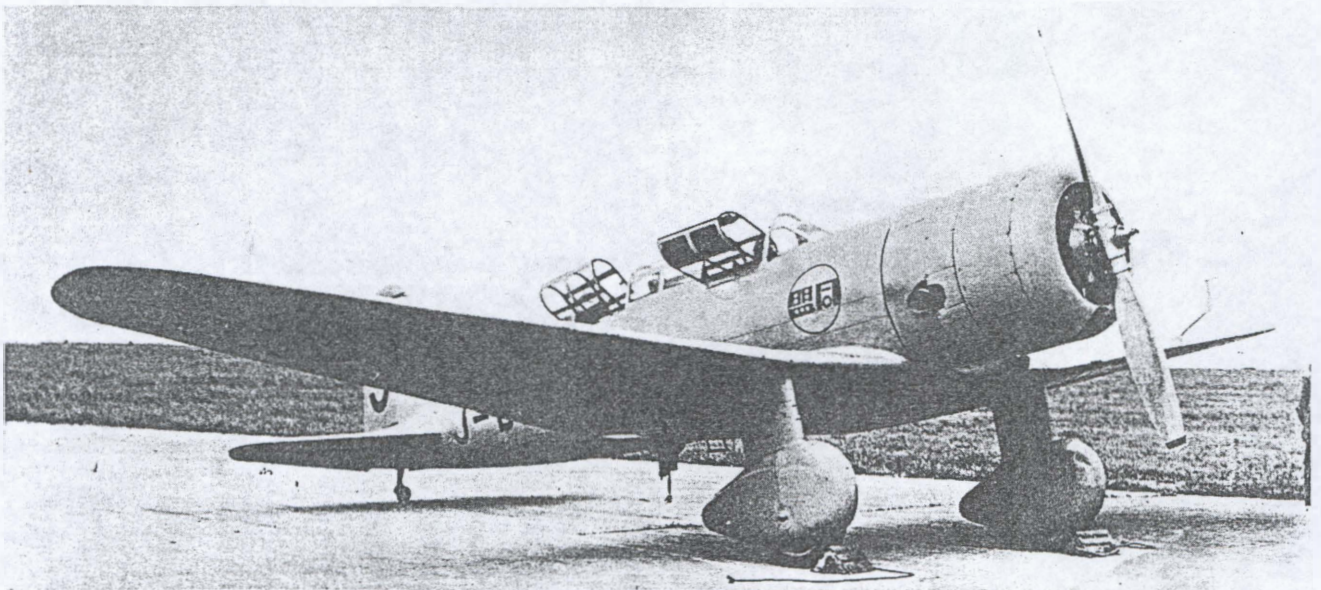
O.F.

The Mysterious "Foo Fighters"



The mysterious "Foo Fighters" plagued and perplexed Allied airmen during World War II. Most flyers thought the unidentified flying objects were terror weapons released by the Nazi war machine during the final days of the Third Reich. A few insisted that the "Foo Fighters" were guided by extraterrestrial intelligence.

The above photograph has appeared under various guises, claiming to show "Foo Fighters" over Europe in WW2, the Pacific and even Korea. Arthur Tomlinson showed this photo in slide form and commented that it was supposed to show the new German secret saucer aircraft in flight.



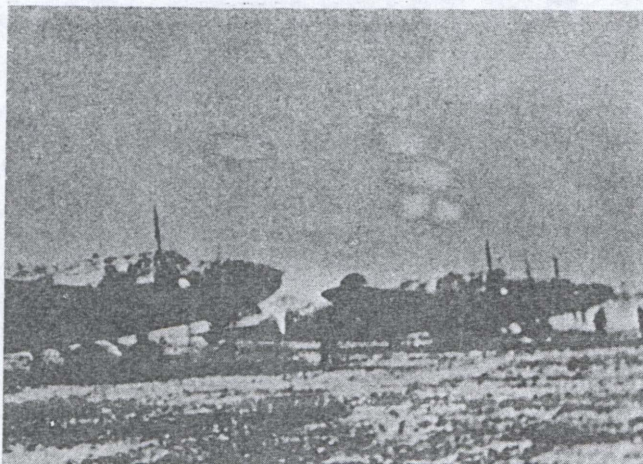
The Mitsubishi "Karigane" Mk. II Monoplane (800 h.p. Mitsubishi A.14 engine).

The "Karigane," with military modifications and equipment, is used in quantity by the Japanese Army Air Corps.

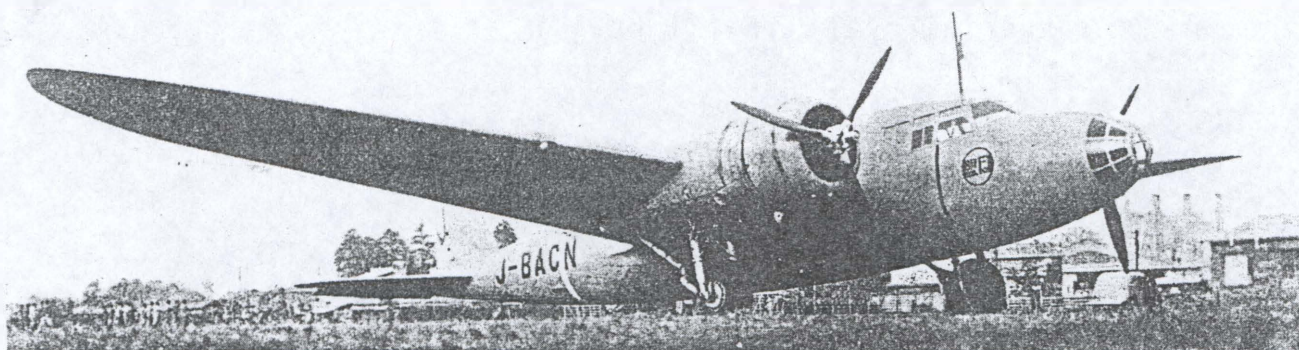
The photograph above shows the civil version of the Mitsubishi "Karigane" which was in wide use in 1940 with the Japanese Army Air Corps. (photo: Janes All The World's Aircraft 1940).

If the photograph at the top of the page is authentic, it could well show a flight of "Karigane" aircraft in company with "Foo Fighters" over the Pacific theatre of operations in WW2.

The Mysterious "Foo Fighters"



In another rare photograph from the pages of "Flying Saucers Are Hostile" by Brad Steiger. Parked aircraft are shown with dubious "blobs" in the sky overhead. The wording indicates that these too are "Foo Fighters" over Europe, but the aircraft shown are almost certainly Japanese "Nakajima Type 19's".



The Nakajima Type 19 Monoplane (two 870 h.p. Mitsubishi Type IV engines).

THE NAKAJIMA TYPE 19.

TYPE.—Twin-engined commercial transport. Also in use as a Long-Range Bomber.

(Photo: Janes All The Worlds Aircraft 1940)

The Nakajima Type 19 appears to be identical with the aircraft shown in the top photograph. If this is correct, where is the evidence to support the ever increasing claims that "Foo Fighters" were seen frequently over Europe during Allied WW2 bombing missions?

The European reports appear to be totally unsubstantiated and have been seized upon by a number of authors without proper research and so the myth increases with each telling.

LOCAL UFO SIGHTINGS INCREASE

A further three UFO sightings have been reported from the Derby area during the month of August, making a total of five incidents during this period.

It is not uncommon for a witness to have had more than one UFO sighting and for this to go undisclosed until the reporting of a second event. This was the case with a Mr Burton of Woods Road, Chaddesden who was interviewed by PRA's Alan Hitchcock recently.

CHADDESSEN/DERBY SIGHTING

Investigated by Alan Hitchcock

At 11.40am on the 30th of August this year, Mr Burton was digging in his garden, when he heard an aeroplane flying overhead. He looked up to watch the aircraft and as he did so he noticed a round, off white object near to the plane, above it and stationary.

He called to his wife to come out and look and then to watch it while he ran indoors for his binoculars, but before he could return the object just disappeared from sight, while his wife was watching it.

Mr Burton had watched the object for approx. one minute before it vanished and he estimated the height of the object as being 15,000ft.

Mr Burton then went on to recount how, several years ago, he had been woken up in the early hours of the morning, to find his bedroom brightly lit. He went over to the bedroom window and saw a bright light over by the nearby woods. The light then moved across the field towards his house, then it went out.

It was shortly afterwards that he saw a "figure" moving down the field towards the hedge at the bottom of his garden. The "figure" moved along the hedge, covering 100yds in about four seconds. Mr Burton described how the figure had moved in "large bounds". The garden hedge was about twelve feet high and the "figure" was head and shoulders above it. This would have made it some 18 feet tall!

Mrs Burton added that she had seen a UFO at Repton several years ago. It was the "conventional" type (Adamski?), it appeared to have windows and it was revolving....

The number of events witnessed by this couple could be an indication of how much UFO activity has been going on over the years. What % goes unreported?

A SIGHTING ON THE 31st AUGUST

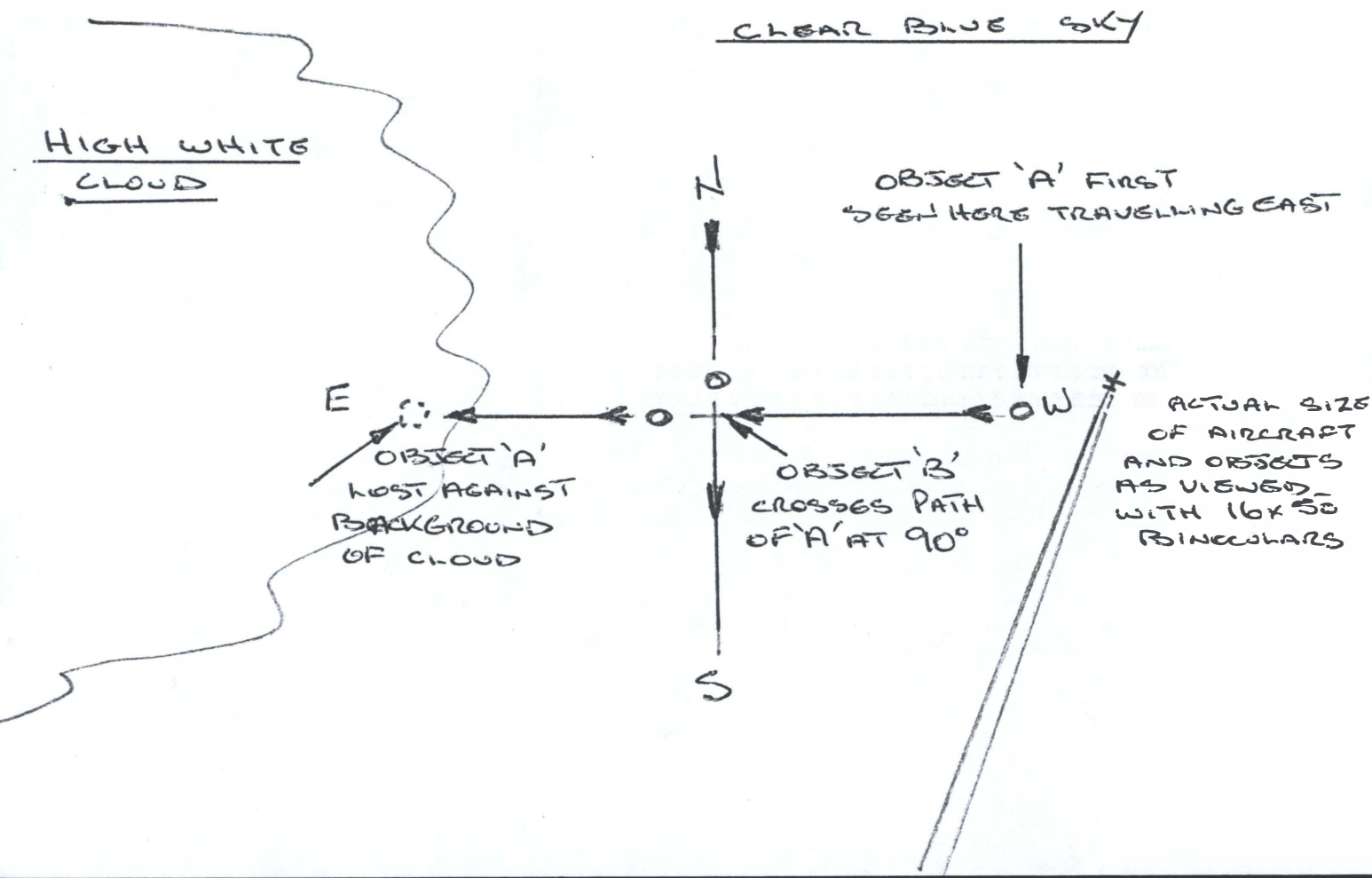
The day after Mr Burton's sighting, Alan Hitchcock saw something unusual himself.

It was 5.10pm and Alan was in his back garden in Chaddesden, watching through his binoculars as aircraft passed overhead. Suddenly an "off white" ball shaped object flew across his field of vision. He quickly followed it with his binoculars as it passed overhead in a West to East direction.

As Alan followed the round object with his binoculars, another object crossed its path (see sketch). The whole incident took only a few seconds as they flashed past each other. One passed West to East and the other from North to South. Both objects appeared Hazy, but this may have been due to the fact that the binoculars had been focussed on the aircraft and there was little time to adjust the range.

The brightness was described as "bright as a cloud on a sunny day" and the shape was round. No noise was heard coming from the objects direction at the time. Weather conditions were scattered cloud on an otherwise sunny day.

Could Alan have seen a similar object to Mr & Mrs Burton the previous day?



Chad Deetken of the Pacific Research Asscn. addressed the CCCS Conference at Bath and has kindly sent us the following report:-

Crop Circles, Saskatchewan, Canada 1992
by Chad Deetken

Flattened Porcupine

Date formed: Aug. 21/22, 1992
Date Found: Aug. 29, 1992
Location: 4 miles SW of the village of Milestone, Sask.
Crop: Wheat
Farmer: Joe Rennick
Land Owner: Roy Ames
Nearest Building: family farm house 1 mile away
Distance to road: 25 feet
Nearest Water: Moosejaw River (dry at the time as is common)
1/2 to 3/4 miles away

At the end of August, near the village of Milestone in southern Saskatchewan, farmer Joe Rennick discovered an irregular rectangular formation about 22' by 63 feet in length in his wheat field. It looked as though a round object had come down and skipped several times like a flat stone on water. Never having seen a crop formation before, he thought it was caused by wind damage. But then he noted a roughly laid counterclockwise swirl. Walking into the center, he noticed something else, -a very flat and very dead porcupine. (diagram 10)

Closer examination showed no signs of wounds or physical damage. However, it seemed evident that some weight or powerful force had encountered this unfortunate creature. Also, even though he estimated it must have been there about 7 days before being discovered, it did not smell and there was no evidence of decomposition.

A mature porcupine weighs 20 to 25 lbs and stands 12 inches tall. This one had been flattened to a thickness of 3 inches, its legs spread out underneath it in the form of an "X". Furthermore, a skid mark in the soil embedded with broken quills showed it had been caught by the force at the edge of the formation and dragged into the center. Its quills were in the same direction as the swirl of the wheat.

A possible explanation why porcupines, and no other animals, have been found dead in crop formations may be in the way porcupines react when in danger. Most animals will fly or scurry away if there is the slightest indication of danger. The porcupine, however, not being nimble on its feet, stays put relying on its sharp quills for defence.

Other oddities were that the soil in the field was very soft and sticky yet the soil in the formation was completely dry and hard as cement. The imprints of the fallen stalks were

clearly visible on the ground as though the stalks had been forcefully slammed down.

Also, the plants in the field were still green and subtle but in the formation they were extremely dry and brittle and the seeds were dried like prunes.

The unfortunate thing about this case is that the body of the animal had decomposed before Mr. Rennick called me, and before he thought of the importance of an autopsy. The facts of this report were verified by four different witnesses.

On speaking to Mr. Rennick on November 17th, he mentioned an additional formation, the approximate shape of a horseshoe, had been added to the formation. It was less than a week old.

Another Porcupine

Date Formed: Late July, 1989

Date Found: mid Aug.

Location: 4 miles north of Estevan, Sask.

Crop: Wheat

Farmer: Don Hagel

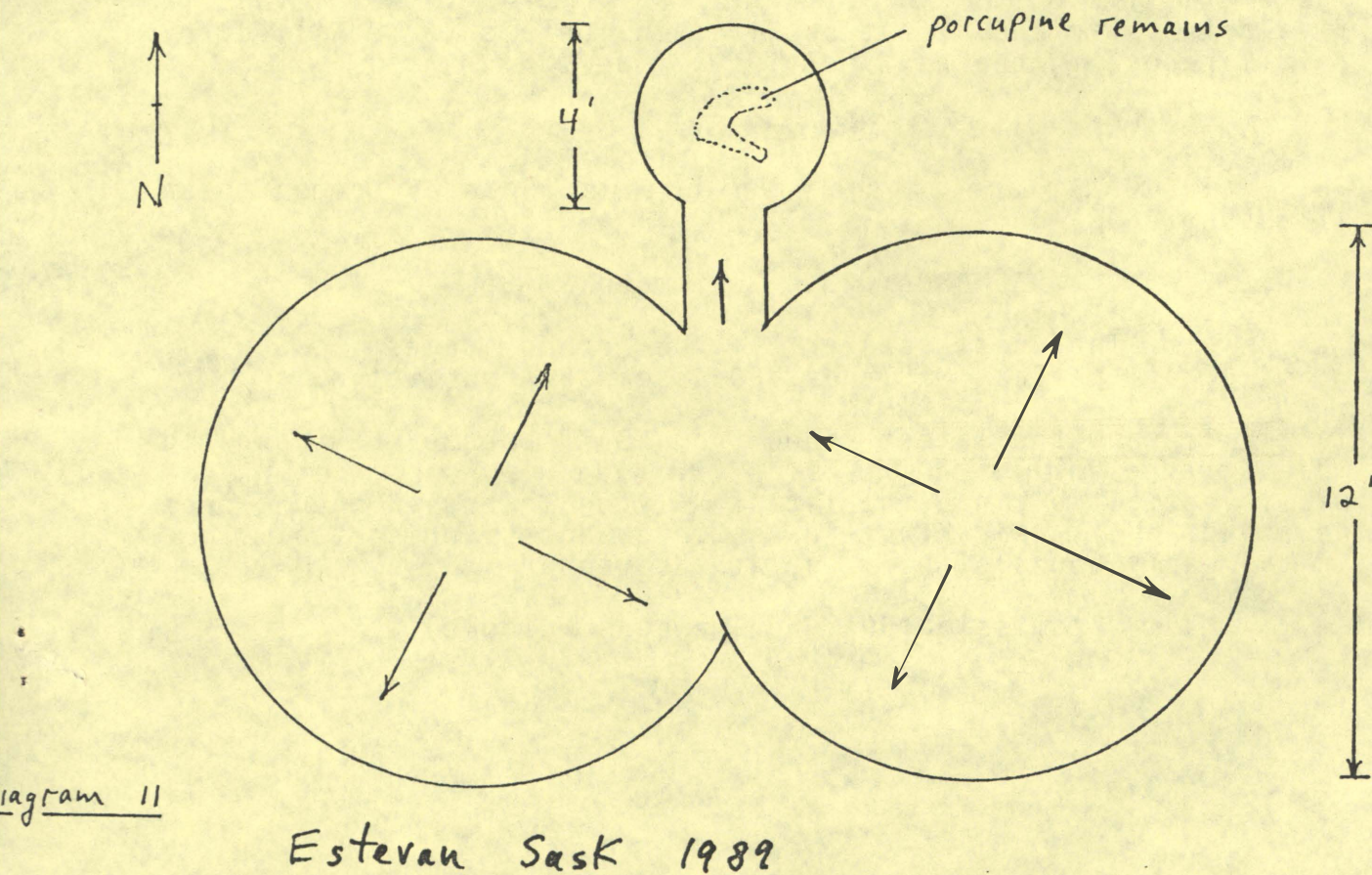
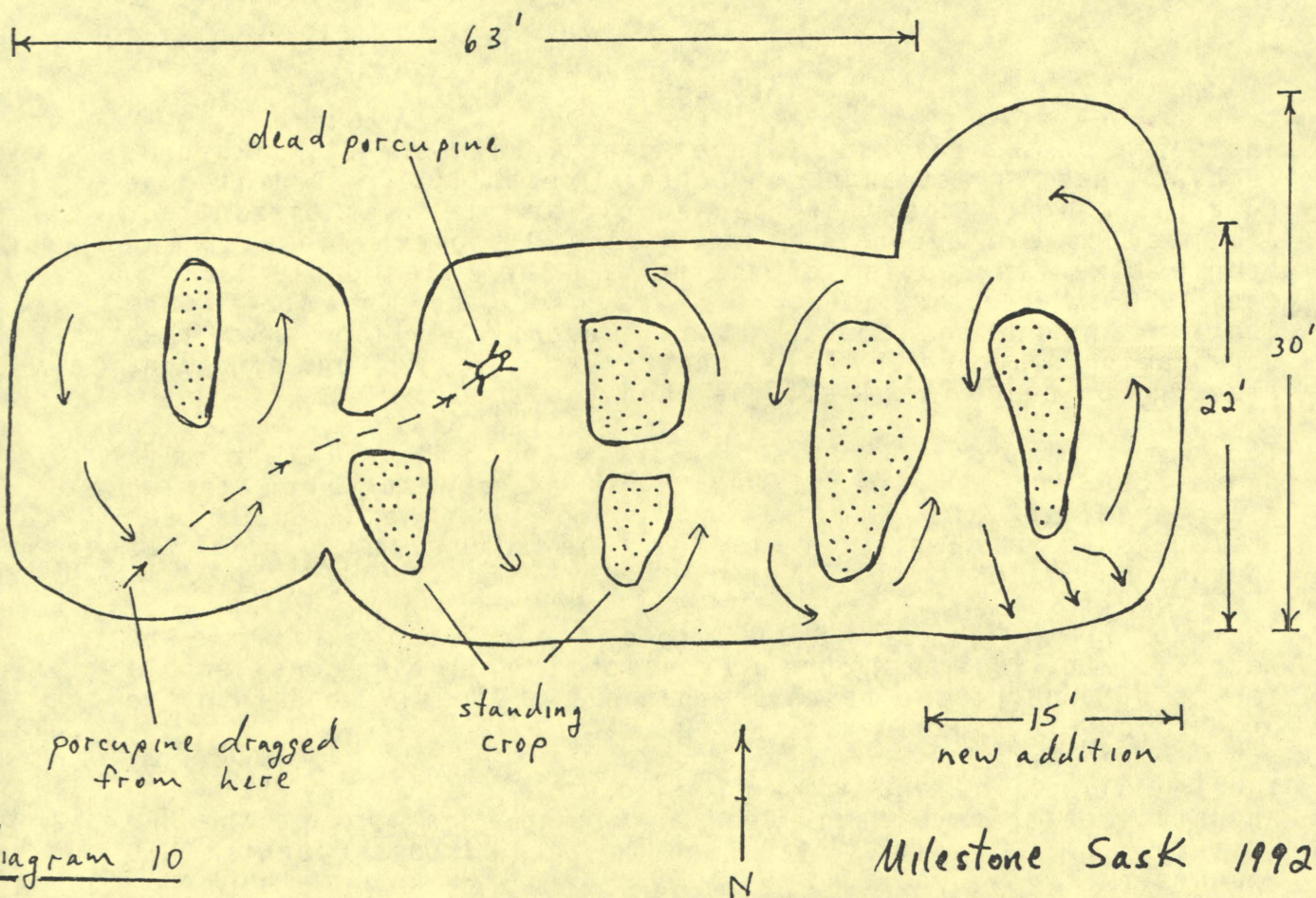
Nearest Building: airplane hanger (very small) 1/2 mile away

Distance to Road: 1/2 mile

Nearest Water: small pond 1/2 miles away

About 100 miles to the SE of Milestone, just north of the town of Estevan, Sask., farmer Don Hagel recalls having found two 12' circles in his wheat field late July, 1989. The circles touched each other as in a 'figure 8' (diagram 11). The lay in both was radial. Where the circles touched, a short narrow path came off at right angles and ended in a small circle only a few feet in diameter. In this small circle lay a dead porcupine.

Judging by the difference in maturity in the fallen crop and standing crop, he surmised the animal had been dead between 2 and 3 weeks. When he took his wife to have a look, they both made comments about it being odd that all that was left of the body were the quills and bones. The flesh and the skin had completely disappeared. Furthermore, part of the jaw and the tail bones were missing. The remains were very black like they had been covered in soot although it did not rub off when handled. There was also no darkening of the ground it laid on. Both have lived on a farm a long time and swear neither a predator nor ants or anything else could account for the condition of the remains.



TALE ENDERS

The staff of the Davidson Estate Agents, Bath Street, Ilkeston, Derbys. had a strange encounter recently. During the refurbishment of their office, an old counter was dismantled. A number of old accounting files were discovered in what had been a boxed in section of the unit. The files dated back to the 1950's. As the discovery was made and the staff were looking through the books, they suddenly realised that they were being watched by the ghostly figure of an old man, standing on nearby stairs....he then vanished!

The latest "Sussex Circular" (Editor: Andy Thomas) carries a photograph and drawing of the "worlds largest Crop Circle" discovered in the Sameria region of Northern Spain and photographed in September 1992. The five ring circle was approx. one mile across!

Comment on our latest Crop Circle paper:- "I would like to congratulate you on your presentation and the considerable amount of thought and research that has obviously gone into the production of this paper"....PAT DELGADO.

Your Editor took part in a live 'chat show' on Sky TV (23rd August), featuring Timothy Good answering questions on the UFO mystery. Sky TV were interested in the Editors 'Turkish UFO Encounter' (OVNI June 93).

NEW CROP CIRCLE: Tony Caldicott has recently informed us of a spectacular Pictogram that has appeared in a field between Kettering and Huntingdon (A604) near the village of Bythorn. The event consists of a large central circle, several rings, a five point star and a feature with ten 'petals'. We will carry a full report in the next edition of the OVNI.

NEXT MEETING

This will take place at the Stanley Club, Stanley Common, near Ilkeston (A609) on:-

WEDNESDAY 29th September at 8pm

The guest speaker will be Anthony James
of the East Midlands UFO Research Association.

Tony will show the latest video from "Gulf Breeze" USA, showing more strange lights in the sky. He will also give details of his investigation into the latest "Flying Triangle" report from Newstead Abbey, near Kikby-in-Ashfield, Notts. which took place in the early hours of Saturday 4th September.

Admission 50p (non-members welcome)