

into English a few years ago and published under the same title.

6. *Psychic Discoveries Behind the Iron Curtain*, by Sheila Ostrander and Lynn Schroeder. Introduction by Ivan T. Sanderson. First US edition by Prentice-Hall Inc., 1970. British paperback edition by Abacus Books, London, 1973, under the slightly altered title: *Psi: Psychic Dis-*

coveries Behind the Iron Curtain.

7. *The New Soviet Psychic Discoveries*, by Henry Gris and William Dick, publ. by Prentice-Hall Inc., USA, 1978. British edition by Souvenir Press, London, 1979. (It seems a pity that these two authors do not appear to grant a shred of credit, or even make any mention of the book by the two women, Sheila Ostrander and Lynn Schroeder, which had preceded theirs by eight years.)

FSR BOOKSHELF — 11

New UFO books reviewed by . . .

Janet & Colin Bord

FOR many years English-speaking ufologists have read brief reports of the contactee claims of white South African **Elizabeth Klarer**. Now her story is available as a book, **Beyond the Light Barrier** (published by Howard B. Timmins (Pty) Ltd., and available from them at Sanso Centre, 8 Adderley Street, P.O. Box 94, Cape Town 8000, South Africa, price R9.90 plus R1.20 postage; 190 pages, illustrated with photographs). Her interest in UFOs was first sparked when, aged six, she saw a daylight disc above the family farm. Then in 1937, the light aircraft in which she was flying was paced by a glowing craft. Twenty years later she made telepathic contact with the UFO occupant, who in 1957 landed on a remote area of her farm. He was Akon, a handsome, virile space scientist from Alpha Centauri. "Laughing gaily he caught me round the waist and swung me up on to the hull of his ship and we both laughed. . ." On subsequent meetings, of which there were several, Akon obviously enjoyed picking Mrs. Klarer up in his arms and carrying her around, as well as burying his face in her long blonde tresses. "We rarely mate with Earth women," he said. "When we do. . ." Naturally a golden-haired space baby was born, and for this Mrs. Klarer travelled to Akon's home planet of Meton.

Ufology can now add a new word to its vocabulary: along with contactees and abductees we now have *seductees*, Mrs. Klarer hopefully being the first and only one of these.

As an entertaining space story the book might have had possibilities if the author had more talent for writing. Instead it reads as though Arthur Shuttlewood had set out to write a romantic novel. Between the passages of romantic gush are gobbets of indigestible cosmo-scientific philosophy, much of which is as incomprehensible as it appears meaningless. There are, scattered throughout the text, a number of unintentional and pertinent clues to the mainspring of this work. Attitudes such as "Perhaps I was planted here as a child, because I do not resemble my family," and, when she first meets her space lover, "Longing to cast off the formality of my English upbringing, I tried

hard to stifle my natural reserve" will not be unfamiliar to the psychologist.

Also of interest is the facial similarity between a portrait of Akon, presumably drawn by the author, and a photograph of her, which suggests that she may well have been communing with her alter ego. Overall this work of fantasy is likely to be of more interest to the clinical psychologist than to the ufologist.

Another space enigma is presented by **Greta Woodrew**, an American woman who apparently has many psychic abilities. Mrs. Woodrew is a protégé of psychic researcher Andrija Puharich, and if you have read *Uri* by Puharich or Stuart Holroyd's *Prelude to the Landing on Planet Earth* you will have a fair idea of the development of events in Greta Woodrew's **On a Slide of Light** (Macmillan Publishing Co., New York, \$12.95; Collier Macmillan Publishers, London, UK price not known; 176 pages).

The author, a successful business-woman, wife and mother who has been strongly psychic since childhood, met Puharich in 1976 and they soon embarked on a series of experimental sessions with Mrs. Woodrew acting as a channel after being hypnotised by Dr. Puharich. While hypnotised she made contact with extra-terrestrial beings from a planetary system named Ogatta which exists in another galaxy. Through Mrs. Woodrew the Ogattans channelled information and predictions, and although these predictions forecast cataclysmic upheavals on earth in the coming decades, as have many similar predictions, their tone is less oppressive than usual, for, as the Ogattans themselves say, they want to "keep it light." Nonetheless the message is the same as many others received by similar means in recent years, that if mankind does not alter its thinking and behaviour, cataclysmic annihilation by natural means is inevitable.

In later chapters Puharich takes a minor role and Mrs. Woodrew's personality is replaced by various Ogattan entities, sometimes, when in public, with embarrassing results. The level of psychic phenomena which accompany these 'channelling' sessions is rem-

inherent of the early spiritualist mediums at their most active. During her contacts there are smells (both pleasant and repulsive), apparitions, the moving and rearrangement of furniture, the dispersal of clouds, and an increase in the size and weight of the medium, but no physical materializations of entities nor the appearance of any substance such as ectoplasm.

The chapter on UFOs is disappointingly uninformative. The Ogattans do use spacecraft which they call "gattae," but these do not seem to be related to any of the enigmas which are the present concern of ufology. Instead the author reiterates the well-worn themes of great secrets suppressed by governments, astronauts' sightings, and the alien structures which have been built on the moon. She tells us that 24 civilisations with advanced technology are committed to helping planet Earth through the difficult times ahead, and that her role is to help prepare mankind for this and to lessen the shock and fear when contact with these ETs occurs.

Mrs. Woodrew's matronly American personality is evident in her writing style, and also shows by an irritating lack of detailed information when it is most needed, but there seems no doubt about her sincerity and her belief in the reality of the Ogattan friends. The profits from her book will go to the S.T.A.R. Foundation which has been formed to finance psychic research. Ufologists whose approach to the subject is not solely materialist should find *On a Slide of Light* an interesting and entertaining book. Whether the author's communicators are independent entities or are manifestations from her own inner self is a question over which to ponder. But Mrs. Woodrew and her apparently amazing psychic abilities should be considered within the context of the history of spiritualism and mediumship. The greater knowledge readers have of this field, the more likely they are to find this book of value.

Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle is a psychologist and professor of counselling services at the University of Wyoming who has been involved in investigating the UFO enigma during much of his professional life. He has established a reputation for a humanistic and eclectic approach, and has concentrated on the reported experiences of those who have had a direct contact with the phenomenon as an abductee or contactee, or an indirect contact via telepathy. In May 1980 he arranged a weekend conference where some seventeen of these UFO witnesses gathered in order to share their experiences. The collected statements of these witnesses, who were encouraged to "compare [their] UFO encounters and communications" and to search for patterns in them, have been published as **Proceedings of the Rocky Mountain Conference on UFO Investigation** [in a 132-page large-format paperback, available from Dr. R. Leo Sprinkle, Division of Counseling and Testing, The University of Wyoming,

Laramie, Wyoming 82071, USA, price \$5 (surface mail) or \$8 (airmail)].

It has in recent years become increasingly evident that there is no distinct boundary between the physical UFO experience and the psychological UFO experience: the assumed dichotomy does not in fact exist. The reported experiences of these UFO witnesses range from abductions into solid craft to receiving messages in the head, and whether either is more or less "real" than another appears at present impossible to establish. Very possibly it is an irrelevant question. Dr. Sprinkle believes that by bringing these experiences into the forefront of the UFO debate "a pattern of information can emerge which will help us to learn, to understand, and to accept, the significance and meaning of the UFO experience in the lives of UFO contactees." By ignoring the hardware and concentrating on the witnesses' inner experiences, Dr. Sprinkle brings a greater humanitarian attitude to the problem, an attitude from which ufology must surely benefit.

"After 22 years of study and investigation I am convinced that the evidence is overwhelming that *some* UFOs are intelligently controlled vehicles from off the Earth." These are the words of nuclear physicist **Stanton T. Friedman** who since 1970 has earned his living by lecturing and writing about UFOs. Some of his papers, including several presented at MUFON symposia, are now available as magazine-style booklets, as follows: **Flying Saucers: Four Scientific Papers** comprising 'Science Fiction, Science, and UFOs', 'Fiction, Fact, and Flying Saucers', 'A Scientific Approach to Flying Saucer Behavior' and 'The Case for the Extraterrestrial Origin of Flying Saucers' (price \$3); **UFOs — Myth and Mystery** (price \$1.25); **Flying Saucers and Physics** (price \$1.25). All these can be obtained from UFORI, P.O. Box 3297, Sta. B, Fredericton, New Brunswick, E3B 2E7, Canada.

UFORI can also supply **The Zeta Reticuli Incident** by **Terence Dickinson**, a full-colour reprint of the December 1974 "Astronomy" magazine article dealing with Marjorie Fish's research on the Betty Hill star map. Comments by Carl Sagan, David Saunders and others are included in this thorough survey of the evidence for and against Ms Fish's interpretation. Also available is *Zeta Reticuli Update* by Terence Dickinson, a 4-page article providing additional information up to 1980. Dickinson sensibly concludes: "Despite the many attractive features of the Fish interpretation, it is certainly premature to assume it is *proof* that we have been visited by extraterrestrials... we can only say the Zeta Reticuli star map is provocative evidence — not proof — that extraterrestrial intelligence is visiting Earth in the 20th century."

'The Zeta Reticuli Incident' costs \$2.50 and 'Zeta Reticuli Update' costs 75 cents. For readers interested

in buying more than one of the above items, UFORI offers special reduced prices: 'Flying Saucers: Four Scientific Papers' + 'The Zeta Reticuli Incident' + 'Zeta Reticuli Update' for \$5; all three \$1.25 papers for \$3; all six items for \$7.50. The currency is US dollars, and all prices include postage by sea mail.

It is surprising that no one before now has thought to publish 'an all-picture survey' of the history of UFOs. David C. Knight's book **UFOs: A Pictorial History from Antiquity to the Present** (McGraw Hill Book Company, New York, \$12.95, 192 pages) covers the subject from ancient astronauts to the 1979 New Zealand lights, and there are at least two pictures on every spread, sometimes five or six. Long captions describe the pictures, and each chapter has a short introduction. Not forgotten are bibliography, glossary

and index. The 10 x 8-inches format allows the photographs to be well displayed, and the reproductions are on the whole quite good, bearing in mind the limitations imposed by the poor quality of most of the originals. How many of the UFO photographs show "true UFOs" as opposed to hoaxed UFOs or IFOs is anyone's guess. But in ufology, as also in other areas of "strange phenomena," photographic evidence poses problems. Most photographs are of small, distant objects and no detail can be made out, even when big enlargements are made. But when close-up photographs are displayed, with plenty of detail visible, the natural reaction of the cautious observer is to proclaim these photographs obvious hoaxes! Unfortunately this is what they usually turn out to be, and we are left asking the question: Why, after all these years, are there no convincing close photographs of genuine UFOs?

A WARM AND PEACEFUL EXPERIENCE

Leslie Harris

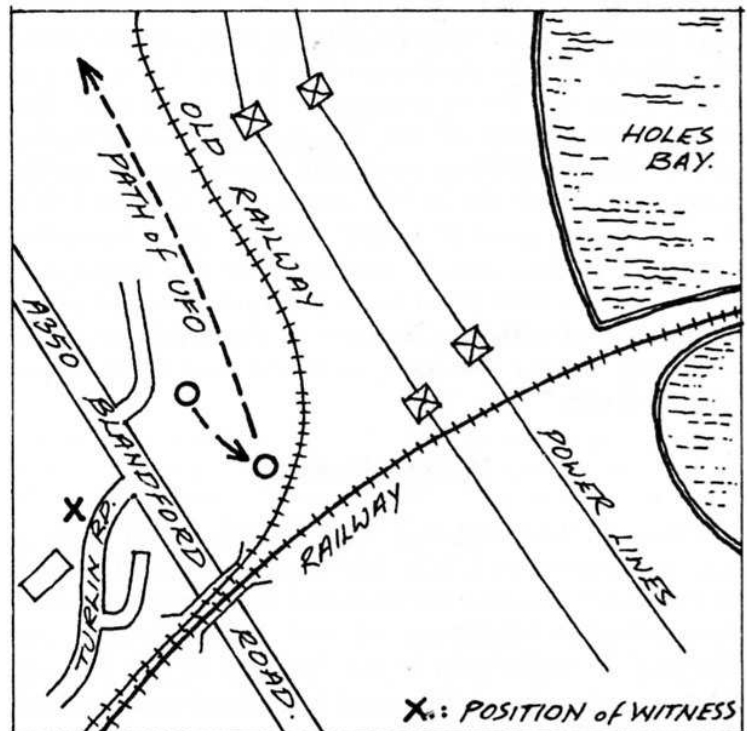
THE "singling-out" of a witness, or group of witnesses, appears to be a common factor in UFO phenomena. This interesting report is a further example of such apparent "selection". The witness wrote to Jenny Randles, having obtained her address from *Unexplained* magazine, who forwarded the information to me with a request that I visit the witness as soon as possible, as she had seemed somewhat reluctant to come forward at all. This report is the result of the interview conducted by John Ledner and myself at the home of the witness on Monday, January 19, 1981.

The Sighting

The incident occurred on Saturday December 6, 1980, at 9.01 a.m. A cold, clear morning with a blue sky and wintry sun. The witness, Mrs. Jean Findlay (43) of Turlin Road, Hamworthy, Poole, Dorset, had left her home at 9 a.m. (she heard the time on the radio as she was leaving) to catch a bus. The walk from her home to the bus stop takes no more than a minute, hence her precision regarding the time.

As she walked towards the bus stop she had an urge to look up at the sky. She said it was almost as if a voice in her head had asked her to do so. Glancing up she saw just ahead of her, over some trees, at about a 20° elevation, an object which was of classic "flying saucer" configuration. It was circular with a central dome, or, to use Mrs. Findlay's own words, "oval with a bulge on top," and one end of the rim appearing more pointed than the other. In size, Mrs. Findlay compared the object with a double-decker bus, or 9

inches at arm's length. All estimates of size given by the witnesses inexperienced at judgements are, of course, unreliable, but in this case it would appear that the UFO was of considerable size. Mrs. Findlay described the colour as like that of a barrage balloon, or, for those like myself, not of sufficiently advanced age to recall such wartime artefacts, another comparison was with the *Goodyear* dirigible which was seen by many people in the local area last summer. In



Sighting location at Hamworthy, Poole, Dorset.