suspect strongly that there are thousands of closet CE-III's in the United States alone. If ufologists nationwide working with hypnotists, psychologists, or other students of human consciousness could confirm this suspicion, we might sooner expect professional funding of long-range studies to answer some of these questions, and to develop means of interpreting paranormal aspects of narratives, as well as determining the social implications of such a vast body of underground occult experience.

The good folk at Giant Rock have been very

influential. For too long we have dismissed the "contactee" and his bizarre narrative of paranormal events. But we may also have been victimized by limitations in human understanding and communication which are inherent in the right-left functional diversity of our brains. Thus in two ways does it seem that the fault, dear friends, is not in the UFO reports, but quite literally within ourselves. About this matter, unlike everything else in this frustrating fascinating UFO enigma, about that there is no ambiguity!

Well - at least, not very much. (See table 7.)

Book Review

UFOs-A STUDY OF THE ABSURD

Jonathan Caplan

T WELVE years or more ago, the prospect of Dr. Allen Hynek and Jacques Vallee collaborating to write a book on UFOs would have caused a few eyebrows to raise. But now, since Hynek has turned progressive — "I was much too sceptical" — this exciting alliance has been forged in print with The Edge of Reality (Henry Regnery, Chicago).

The title itself is perhaps about as much as one can really say about the subject unless one asks "Whose reality?" It is a "subject much more complex than we can present," says Hynek. "The whole craziness of the thing, the whole absurdity — it's another world, another realm, that seems to have some interlocking with ours."

As a book it may seem lazy — there is no great amount of new material and the text is unpolished. But this is because the large majority of the book is composed of transcripts of quite informal taped conversations between Hynek, Vallée and a few others. It is a long and leisurely view of the scope of the phenomenon. It ranges thought-provokingly through countless topics such as the patterns of the phenomenon, the nature of contact, the problems of reality, the experiences of close encounter, the value of hypnosis, what children see, methods of

UMMO

All enquiries on UMMO matters should go, **NOT** to Antonio Ribera, but to:

Sr. Rafael Farriols Calle Aragón 256 BARCELONA –7 SPAIN study, the psychic aspect and interlocking universes.

It is not perhaps the type of book that most people who think they are interested in "flying saucers" will want to read, and it is certainly not an introduction to the subject for the newcomer. There are no answers or messages of salvation. Instead it shows the utter complexity of the subject which it exposes, in the words of Aimé Michel, "a true festival of absurdities." A fine thread running through the folklore of our civilization to what purpose? — Hynek and Vallée discuss all this with open minds and with dedication.

Perhaps the ultimate problem is posed in one of their conversations with Dr. Arthur Hastings when he asks: "How do you make judgements and decisions even though you can't make any final conclusions?"

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NEWS ROUND-UP FROM NORTHERN ENGLAND

Jenny Randles

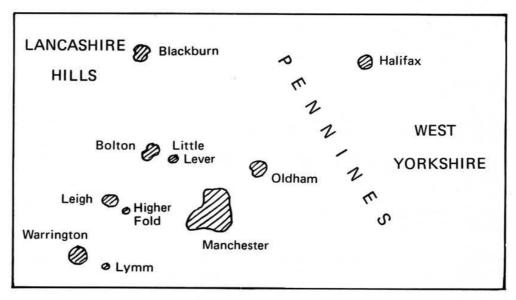
Our contributor is Secretary of the Northern UFO Network (NUFON) as well as being a committee member of BUFORA.

DURING recent years it has come to the attention of ufologists in the area that there exists a particular region which seems to be a focal point for UFO sightings far more than it should be on the basis of chance. This area consists of moorlands on the borders between Greater Manchester, West Yorkshire and Lancashire counties. It also appears to extend to the West to the south central Lancashire hills.

Readers in Britain may recall that over the past two or three years there has been a good deal of talk about a 'mystery helicopter' which flies these regions in the dead of night. It has been chased by policemen, seen by aircraft pilots (sometimes flying under severe weather conditions) and seen by countless witnesses. There is no official explanation for these sightings, which for the most part consist simply of bright white lights low down over desolate hilltops, though there is speculation that a helicopter is illegally bringing in immigrants or performing other kinds of unlawful pursuits. Certainly there is enough evidence to suggest from the reports collated by local UFO groups that although there may well be a helicopter present there also could be something far more strange lurking there also. One is bound to recall John Keel and his articles about mystery aircraft in the 1930s (FSR Vol.16, Nos. 3 & 4) and wonder if the two phenomena may not be more than coincidental.

Police sighting at Lymm

A recent example, which is still under investigation by local investigators of Contact UK, concerns two policemen in the quiet Cheshire village of Lymm. This lies only a mile or two outside the area discussed above and



Rough sketch of area involved in Project Pennine

the helicopter has crossed this artificial borderline before. In the early hours of the morning of May 13, 1976, they went to follow a report of a brilliant light seen at a low elevation, and followed a series of lights which seemed to be down amongst trees, and possibly landing. As they approached the lights took off and disappeared, still keeping low. Officially the national press related that the policemen had seen the helicopter, but in subsequent discussions with investigators the police were less certain about this explanation.

Obviously reports of more substance than this are needed before one can formulate theories about an unusual incidence rate in the region in question. Some such reports were featured in my article 'Lancashire Round up' (FSR Vol.21, No.6) which dealt with a flap of sightings in the

early part of 1975. This activity is typical of that still occurring on a fairly regular basis. It was for these reasons that several groups through the medium of the Northern UFO Network, decided to get together to launch 'Project Pennine.' Involved in this to date are the Manchester UFO Research Association, D.I.G.A.P. (Lancashire), the Rossendale Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena, and the Yorkshire branch of the British UFO Research Association. Most of the reports featured herein spring from their work. The Project is looking at the area from its various aspects, trying to isolate why it should be so productive of reports. Any suggestions on this would be gratefully received by NUFON (c/o 23 Sunningdale Drive, Irlam, Greater Manchester M30 6NI).

In the process of the work some very interesting past cases came to

Must it be "forever"? (continued from page 17)

ever" must surely mean that there is no intelligent communication upon our level of understanding, although that is not to say this could not occur when our understanding grows. We must find out, but it doesn't look as though we are going to get help from anyone, and Stanford's hope that the climate of opinion in the U.S. — instanced in the Senate committee investigation uncovering details of various illegal activities by the CIA and other intelligence

agencies — will now force public disclosure of facts about UFOs seems unlikely to be realized.

Notes

- "The Disappearance of Flight 412," Thames Television, 7.35 pm July 27th, 1976. Film obtained through Viacom, 40 Conduit Street, London, W.1.
- Frank Scully: Behind The Flying Saucers, Henry Holt, 1950.