"flying saucer". Before the call could be put through to the police, the telephone connection went dead. Neither the man nor the pay station

could subsequently be traced.

After the police had reported the incident to Pease Air Force Base, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, a USAF Major and a Lieutenant, both in uniform, arrived. They questioned the police officers, and drove them out to the field where they had sighted the UFO. After intensive questioning, the police were asked to keep the sighting from the press so as to avoid alarming the local people. But it was too late, for several reporters had already got hold of the story. An unconfirmed report has it that an Air Force Officer had later gone round to

all the stores selling newspapers in Exeter, and bought all copies of the Manchester "Union Leader" newspaper which carried a detailed account of the sightings.

In questioning the police officers, the USAF team were particularly interested in the size and shape of the object, and whether chickens in a nearby field had been alarmed during the sighting.

It is of interest to note that for several weeks previous to the sightings, the police had received reports from people saying that their house had suddenly been momentarily illuminated by a bright reddish glow after they had gone to bed. No objects were seen.

## **Beware the Saucers**

By Dr. Bernard E. Finch

THE brain is a chemical laboratory of extreme complexity, all the chemical actions taking place in a minute unit called the nerve cell (neurone). This cell is the ultimate building block of thought and sensation, and it mediates its action through a long process called the axon. Along this axon passes the nerve impulse, which is electrical in character.

There are 10 billion of these nerve cells and fibres in the human brain, and this infinitely complex nerve net, and chemical processes which keep it in ceaseless activity, constitute the physical basis of mind, emotion, and sensation. Nerve fibres can be compared to telephone wires, and, in fact, transmit an electric message but much slower. During every moment of man's conscious and unconscious life, unacountable billions of these impulses are surging through nerve fibres. sensations, all perceptions, all impressions are brain-born, arising from impulses brought to the brain by the sensory nerves, but these sensations and perceptions can also be produced by electrical stimulation of the brain, and by drugs. In addition electrical stimulation can also produce hallucinations, and as indeed every sensation is accompanied by an electrical pattern of neuronal activity, it ought theoretically to be possible, by feeding suitable patterns into the brain, to produce any desired sensation-visual, tactile, olfactory, gustatory, and so on. With the stimulation of certain brain areas even emotional experiences could be brought about.

According to the laws of electromagnetism, magnetic fields are associated with electric currents, and strong enough fields can alter electric currents, even reversing them. Some years ago Russian scientists established the fact that a magnetic field will act directly on the flow of nerve processes in the cortex of the cerebral hemispheres. In their experiments, an hypnotised subject accepted specific visual images. The scientists found that if they brought a magnet up to the back of the subject's head, it would alter these images (Yunyy Tekhnik 1960).

A large amount of work has now been carried out on the effect of magnetic fields on the brain: visual sensations have been aroused by these fields<sup>1</sup>,<sup>2</sup>,<sup>3</sup>. Blood changes have been produced by these fields<sup>4</sup>,<sup>5</sup>, and a whole host of experiments have been carried out on the effects of fluctuating mag-

netic fields on the brain<sup>6</sup>, <sup>7</sup>, <sup>8</sup>, <sup>9</sup>.

There is no doubt now that magnetic fields influence neuronal activity, with resultant accom-

panying sensory phenomena.

These magnetic changes are around us continuously, for in nature these changes occur in the electromagnetic atmosphere, and are produced by solar, lunar, or cosmic causes, and nobody will dispute the fact that certain weather conditions have significant effects on human life. It was Hippocrates in 400 B.C. who advised his students to learn about meteorology if they wanted to become physicians.

Reiter found that alternating electric fields,

ranging in frequency from a few cycles to 200,000 cycles per second, could cause mental changes. These fields are mostly created by electric discharges between the earth, i.e., lightning. When influenced by this frequency, people became moody, tense, and tension built up, causing accidents of various kinds.

All the experiments so far described were carried out with normal people. But what of the large percentage of so-called sensitives, neurotics, and schizoid personalities? The effect of the magnetic field on them will vary considerably, producing more intense and varied reactions. From evidence collected over the last 20 years UFOs are know to be associated with intense and fluctuating magnetic fields. All the "close-" and "near-contact" stories point to the fact that all witnesses have been infields. All the "loose-" and "near-contact" stories point to the fact that all witnesses have been inmental states depending on the personality of the witness and the intensity of the field. The effects varied from headaches, dizziness and hallucinations (visual, auditory, and olfactory), to emotional changes, delusions, and amnesia with psychotic features. In several recent encounters there were

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<sup>a</sup>Dunlap, K. (1911) Visual sensations from alternating magnetic fields. Science, 33, 68-71.

<sup>a</sup>Magnusson, C. E., et al. Visual sensations caused by changes in the strength of a magnetic field. Am. J. Physiology, 29, 124–36.

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symptoms of an epileptiform discharge with loss of consciousness.

My own view is that these effects are merely incidental to the presence of the UFO and could be prevented by the witness wearing antimagnetic, or other form of protective insulation.

Before any approach is made to a UFO, people should be warned to wear a metallic anti-magnetic helmet, or metallic clothing (mesh) of some kind to nullify the intense magnetic field. In addition they should wear rubber soled footwear to insulate them from "ground" effects in the open, especially if the soil is damp. It is only by wearing this protective clothing that they will avoid the risk of mental changes in the form of sensory effects. (It is interesting to note that the crews of the UFOs, appear to be dressed in this way).

Finally, all the evidence to date indicates that the extraterrestrials show disinterest when in contact with earthlings, and any attempt at interference immediately produces a hostile attitude. By their appearances and manner, one can only surmise that we are witnessing a degenerate form of the "angels" of five thousand years ago.

<sup>5</sup>Levine, S. Magnetic technique in vitro isolation of leucocytes.

<sup>6</sup>Thompson, S. P. (1910) Physiological effect of an alternating magnetic field. Proc. Roy. Soc. 13, 82.

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<sup>8</sup>Leikind, M. C., et al. (1949) Magnetism—its effect on living matter. Washington, D.C.

<sup>9</sup>Freeman, M. W. (May, 1960) Magnetism in medicine. J. Appl. Phys. 31, 5.

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