

readers will be right in assuming I was not consulted in any way.

This is essentially the same story which appeared in Flying Saucer Review under the title "The Aveley Abduction" although there are omissions and a few additions. The contactee, John Day, had requested anonymity for himself and his wife Sue when FSR's article was being prepared, and it was Mr. Collins' suggestion that they should be hidden under the pseudonyms John and Elaine Avis. Strange, to say the least, that they should wish to remain anonymous

in the pages of FSR, which only publishes bona fide and objective reports of cases, yet later they allow their real names to be splashed around in the mass circulation, sensationalist Sunday newspaper. Still, that's their affair.

I gathered from Mr. Collins that the Aveley case was discussed by Barry King and himself with an intermediary who was associated with a member of the newspaper's editorial staff. I understand too that these people were shown the relative copies of FSR.

Yet, despite the months of research and investigation on behalf of FSR (e.g. the hypnosis sessions, which we arranged through Dr. B.E. Finch) and UFOIN, and the mountain of editorial work involved, the News of the World tends to treat the case, without any reference to the date or place of the incident, as something which its writer unearthed for himself.

All in all it looks as if this is another case of over-enthusiastic publicity seeking gone sadly awry. — EDITOR.]

UFO FRIGHTENS A DOG

Ian Cresswell

Ian is a freelance UFO investigator who works with several organisations, including the Center for UFO Studies in the USA. In recent years he has been helping coordinate production, with NUFON and CONTACT (UK), of a major historical catalogue of northern England UFO sightings. He investigates cases for UFOIN in the North Lancashire and Cumbria region.

A Close Encounter is not a very common event. Indeed it may well be that only certain types of individual can experience one. The case I am about to recite involves just one witness, who claims to have had two close encounters with associated effects.

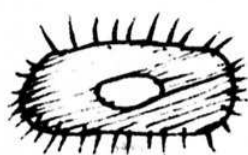
Richard Wade is a gardener-cum-handyman who now resides in Penrith, Cumbria, but for most of his life has lived in Southern Scotland. Both incidents took place in that country.

In August 1955 Richard was only 17, but was an NCO in the local air training cadets. This meant he had qualifications in the recognition of various forms of air transport such as aircraft, and also balloons. This particular day was hot and sunny and he was combine harvesting in a field near the town of Jedburgh in Roxburghshire. The surroundings were quiet and he was well away from roads or habitation. Richard, who had stopped for his lunch, was sitting on the wall of a dyke. He was looking up the grassy slopes of a rise thinking of nothing in particular. With him that day was his dog, who at the time in question (almost exactly mid-day) was sitting at his feet munching a sandwich that he had just given to her.

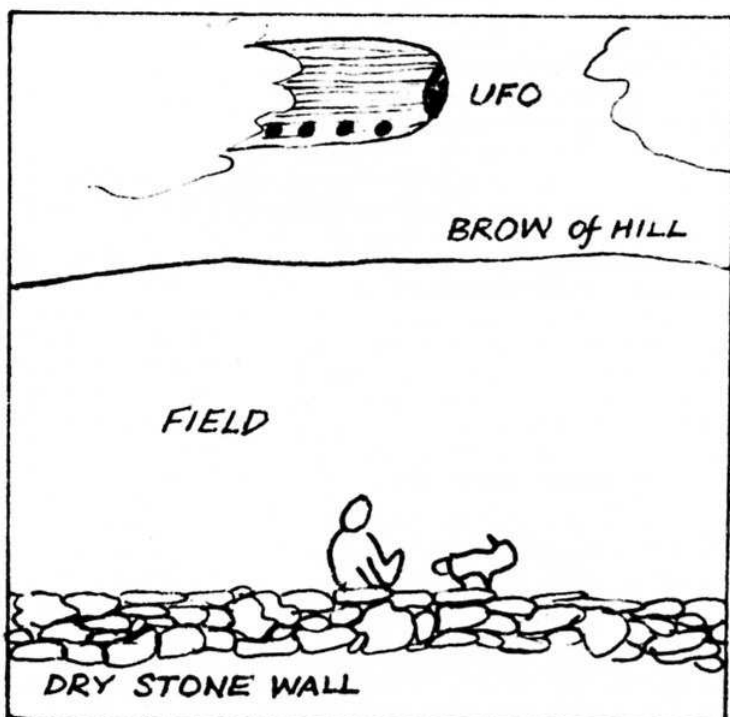
Suddenly the dog started to shake and whimper

and took off, tail between her legs, obviously very disturbed by something. Richard called to her but she took no heed and disappeared in the direction of home. A little concerned, but sure that she would be all right, Richard turned to see if he could find what was the cause of the dog's panic.

Atop the rise, at a height of about 2,000 feet above the ground was a large fluffy white cloud and coming out of this was a silvery cigar-like object. Richard stood transfixed for about ten minutes as it drifted out of the cloud very slowly (he estimates a



November 1976
Annan,
Dumfries-shire



speed of 10 mph). He was able to watch it very closely and take in every detail.

The cigar was about 40 feet long and 25 feet wide, more oval than cigar shaped really. It seemed to have lines running parallel along the sides. In front was a large window that was coloured dark blue, and at the base a row of four 'portholes' that were coloured alternately blue and orange/red.

Richard remained calm as the object drifted past making no sound. It moved on a steady, straight course from the south west and finally disappeared into another very large cloud. It was not seen to reappear.

On returning home Richard found the dog still shaking, and indeed she never recovered from this. She started to degenerate into fits and in a matter of weeks was dead. It is not known if the illness was precipitated by the experience but a connection does seem apparent. This is interesting, because despite Richard's apparent familiarity with air transport the object described bears all the attributes of a large balloon or airship.

The second incident took place more than 20 years later in November 1976. when Richard had some interest in UFOs, he admits. It was late evening on a cold, clear night with thousands of stars visible. Richard was walking along the dark lane by the side of Annan railway station in Dumfriesshire. As was his habit he was gazing upwards at the sky. Suddenly he noticed a very bright light moving towards him from the south.

It came over the houses and then stopped almost directly overhead at a height of about 3,000 feet. The deceleration was very sharp. It now appeared to be a very bright oval shape with an even brighter centre. The colour was a bluish/grey and it was almost blinding. It was about 25 feet in diameter and was pulsating.

Richard stood watching the object above him. It remained stationary for about ten minutes and he felt his hair and scalp tingling as if they were fully charged with static electricity. He also describes a

tingling sensation running down his spinal column.

The disappearance of the object was sudden. There was a whooshing noise and it streaked away towards the north and was gone in a matter of seconds. Richard looked around but there was nobody else in the vicinity to testify to what he had seen.

It is conceivable that the object described was ball lightning, although this would belie his estimates of size and duration which would probably have to be enormously exaggerated if this were the case.

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