

"Last Tuesday the object appeared again to the East of Offenburg just after 9.15 p.m. It was clearly visible for only a few minutes, as thunderclouds then intervened and hid it from sight. It was once again at the same time of the day as on the previous occasions, and once again it was the same East-West trajectory. But this time a camera was ready, loaded with highly sensitive film and fitted with a telephoto lens, and the object was photographed. [Photo accompanied original article but we do not have good copy—EDITOR.] The photo corroborates the description given by Artur Seiter who said: 'Seen through binoculars, the object had a flat shape and was travelling, in a diagonal sort of fashion, from S.E. to S.W.'

"Since this object cannot be the Soviet space-capsule *Salyut*, which moves in the opposite direction, and has been seen over the Baden-Württemberg area of Germany several times, the question as to the nature and origin of the flying object still remains open. Was it, perhaps, this same flying object that was sighted near Achern on July 16?

DO "FLYING SAUCERS" ACTUALLY EXIST?

"The talk about these discs, or 'flying saucers' as they are called, began only a few years after the last World War. The detailed description given by the Oberachern Police-officer, his wife, and the truck-driver, inevitably leads our minds back to this theme which is indeed dismissed by so many as fantasy but which nonetheless has a very real background.

"In the book *Die deutschen Waffen und Geheimwaffen des éweiten Weltkrieges (German Weapons And Secret Weapons Of World War II)* by Rudolf Luser, published by the well-known firm of J. F. Lehmanns in Munich in 1959, precise details were given about these 'flying discs,' and we read:

"Since 1947 flying saucers have been haunting the world, turning up suddenly here and there, arriving and

departing again at hitherto unheard of speeds with rotating flames around their rims; are tracked by radar, are chased by fighter aircraft, and yet right down to this present day it has not been possible to identify any such *flying saucer*, or to ram it, or to shoot it down. The world, and indeed the scientific world, finds itself confronted with an alleged mystery or with a miracle of technology.

"Only slowly is the fact, the truth, leaking out, namely that, already during the War, German researchers and scientists had taken the first steps towards these *flying saucers*, and that they actually built and tested out such flying devices bordering on the miraculous. According to confirmed reports from experts and from people who worked on them, the first projects, called *flying discs*, were begun in the year 1941. The plans for these machines derive from the German experts Schriever, Habermohl, and Miethe, and from the Italian Bellonzo. Habermohl and Schriever adopted a broad ring which rotated around a stationary cupola-type cockpit and consisted of controllable blades that could be adjusted to any required position, according to whether they were needed for take-off or for level flight. Miethe on the other hand developed a discus-like shape, 42 metres in diameter, to which adjustable jets were fitted. Schriever and Habermohl, who worked in Prague, took off on February 14, 1945, in the first *flying disc*, and in three minutes they reached an altitude of 12,400 metres and a speed of 2,000 km.p.h. There were plans to reach speeds of 4,000 km.p.h.' "

1 Offenburg (Lat. 48° 27' N.; Long. 7° 56' E.) is in the State of Baden, in the South-West of Germany, and not far from the east bank of the Rhine.

2 Achern, also in Baden, lies slightly to the N.E. of Offenburg, at Lat. 48° 37' N.; Long. 8° 05' E.).

3 The Kinzig is the river on the East bank of which Offenburg stands.

Readers' Reports

Dartmoor mystery circles

Dear Sir,—With regard to the recent publication in FSR of readers' letters referring to circles found on the ground, I would like to record the following for your interest.

While on holiday in Devon and returning by car from Okehampton across the Moor, my wife and I, and a friend, came across the most perfect circle we have ever seen. It was cut in the ground on the side of a very steep hill which we estimated to be at an angle of about 35 degrees. We first saw this circle during Whitsun in 1971 and at the time we were unable to investigate it further as our holiday was over and we had to return to London. However, on a subsequent visit the following year we made a thorough check on the circle with the following results.

We found the location quite easily but could not see the circle, which I

suppose is not surprising after a lapse of twelve months. However, my wife, who has very keen eyesight, eventually located a very faint outline of the circle with the aid of binoculars. The odd thing was that the circle seemed to be much further down the hill and not so large as the original one. We left the car and walked over to the circle, having great difficulty in finding it.

When we finally located it we drove a screwdriver into the centre and attached to it a length of thin rope. I then walked to the outer edge of the circle, marking this point on the taut rope with my thumb. I then walked all round the edge of the circle while one of my friends supported the screwdriver. To our utter amazement the thumb-mark on the rope never deviated from the outline of the circle. In other words, it was a perfect circle, just like you cut out of pastry with a cup. Now came another surprise,

which will explain why we had trouble in finding the circle in the first place.

My wife discovered that somebody had very carefully replaced the turf in irregular strips measuring about 12 inches by 3 inches; these had been pushed in in all directions in no particular pattern. From this we assumed that it may have been covered in a hurry, the covering not being important as long as the circle's outline was obscured. We all searched about in the vicinity of the circle trying to find where the turfs had been taken from but could not find any marks that would bear any reference to them at all.

Inside the circle we found bracken which was broken down and stunted in growth. Everything within was flattened as though it had had a heavy weight lying on it. Also inside the circle we found short lengths of gorse twigs about ½ inch in diameter that were black as though they had been burnt.

On breaking some of these we found that the inside was a white to yellow colour, and from this we assumed that these pieces of wood had only been charred. This may have been due to swaying which is done on parts of the moors from time to time. The odd thing was that we could not find any similar pieces of wood outside the circle even though we searched over a wide area.

Another odd finding inside the circle was small balls of earth rolled up to about the size of a golf ball; these were made up from many small balls of earth about the size of a quarter-inch ball bearing. Again, nothing like this could be found outside the circle.

We discussed the findings at great length but could not find any acceptable solution. We are positive the circle could not have been cut by a farm tractor as the angle was too steep; even a caterpillar tractor would have great difficulty cutting a perfect circle, especially at the bottom where standing upright was an effort. In any case, we surely would have seen marks left by the caterpillar tracks.

The thing which still puzzles us is who or what would go to the trouble of cutting so perfect a circle in such an awkward place in such a deserted area, that can be seen by motorists from the road, and then go to all the trouble of trying to hide it? For what purpose was it made? We had considered the possibility of witchcraft, but surely any rough circle would suffice for that purpose?

We noticed, too, that in the early part of the year before the bracken had grown much, there were similar circles, one of which might have been the original one we saw as, from memory, it seemed to be in the right place and bigger than the others. Each time we go to Devon we visit this spot, but to date we have nothing of interest to report other than the fact that the bracken is slowly blotting out any sign of the circles.

We hope you and your readers will find this account interesting, and would like to read any remarks you may make.

M. Hackman,
Marney Road,
London SW11.

[The report was also signed by Mrs. Hackman and Mr. and Mrs. John Charlesworth.]

A gliding "coat-hanger"

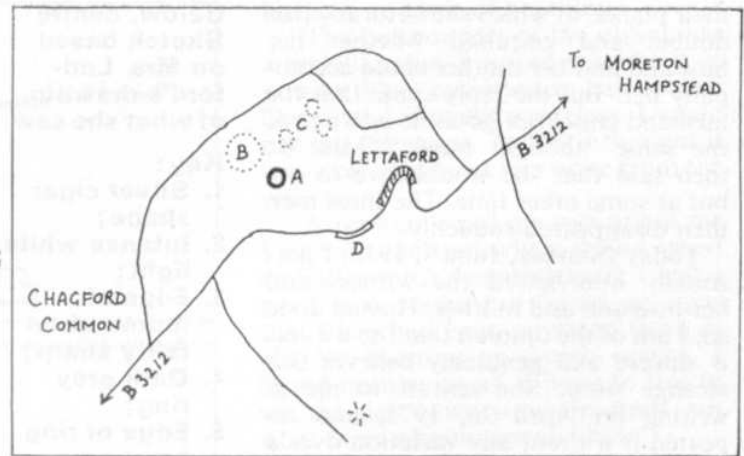
Dear Sir,—It was a bright, clear, sunny afternoon in mid-September, 1966. My husband and I were in our flat at Notting Hill Gate. About 2.00 p.m. my husband called me and said: "What's that up there in the sky? I've been watching it for about 20 minutes before calling you in."

The object, which appeared to be of

Key:

- A. Circle Ordnance Survey reference Sx 695 845;
- B. Original circle?
- C. Outlines of other circles;
- D. Lay-by, half-mile from circle A.

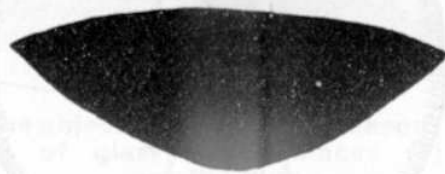
Rough sketch-map of area of mystery circles.



dark metal, was almost in the shape of a coat-hanger such as dry-cleaners now supply. According to my husband, it had been slowly descending from way up in the sky until it became clearly visible, although still at a high altitude.

I then observed its movements with him. It came down further still and then hovered for about half an hour, more or less in the same position.

I find it difficult to estimate size and distance, but I *knew*, without any doubt whatsoever, that it could not have been an aeroplane or glider (wrong shape for a glider) because an aeroplane at that particular height would have appeared much larger than this object—and of course it certainly would not have hovered in the air for some 1½ hours in all. We also completely eliminated all possibility of the



"Coat-hanger" UFO

object being a helicopter, a bird, a child's kite or a balloon, and it certainly was no hallucination, or cloud or light formation. It was most definitely *very* solid, and, as my memory serves me now, rather darkish grey in colour. I would have assumed it to have been made of metal of some sort; I could not say it shone, nor could we hear any sound emanating from it.

After about the 20 minutes or so that I had then been watching the object, it started to drift slowly over to our right in the sky, for about a mile I would think, keeping more or less at the same level. It paused for about five minutes, apparently quite motionless. Then it came straight back the way it had just come, on the same level, but going somewhat quicker, although still somewhat slow-moving. It glided across the sky until it was again in the "space" in the sky we had

been studying it previously. Then it slowly went right up into the sky, following the exact path on which it came originally. After about 15 minutes of staring fixedly into the sky into the sun, it disappeared into space.

I give you my word this event took place. At the time I wrote to the *Evening News* and they published my account in short letter form. I was then in my early 30's, my husband in his early 40's.

Jeanne Handzic (Mrs.),
7 East Way, Shirley,
Croydon, Surrey.

Three Uninvited Visitors

Dear Sir,—After receiving a letter from a lady in Poole, Dorset, reporting a case of three disappearing humanoids, I interviewed the witness in her home. The story is as follows:

Mrs. R., a State Registered Nurse and wife of a police officer, was living at Corby New Town, Northants, where they had a modern flat in the police station, overlooking the town centre.

One June morning in the early 1950's, at 5.50 a.m., Mrs. R's husband was on duty whilst she was in bed in the flat. An object floated through the window which Mrs. R. took to be a leaf initially. After it had alighted on the carpet, however, it resembled a glass cruet set. As the witness watched the object it gradually disappeared.

The flat door then opened and three men appeared in the open doorway to the room. The men smiled and said, "Did you get our visiting card?"

Mrs. R. replied: "A spaceship."
"Well, only a visiting card," came the reply. "We come from a very happy planet, and where we live is very beautiful."

As the conversation proceeded, Mrs. R. realised that it was being conducted not by sound but by telepathy.

They appeared to be ordinary humans, except that their skin was a golden colour. Their clothing was shiny, black and close fitting. They asked Mrs. R. if she would like to visit

their planet, at which she naturally had doubts and enquired whether her husband and her mother could accompany her. But the reply came that the husband could not go as he was not of the same "thought range." Mrs. R. then said that she would love to go, but at some other time. The three men then disappeared suddenly.

Today (Sunday, June 3, 1973) I personally interviewed the witness and her husband and mother. Having done so, I am of the opinion that the witness is sincere and genuinely believes this strange story. She sent it to me in writing on April 26, 1973, and repeated it without any variation over a month later without reference to any notes. Her mother believes Mrs. R. to be telling the truth, while her husband told me he is "open-minded."

Details of the witness are as follows: date of birth, February 8, 1922; born in North of England of mixed English and Irish ancestors; brought up as Catholic but now is a non-denominational Christian; qualified as a State Registered Nurse at Kettering General Hospital.

There was no possible motive for a hoax or deception. She sought neither publicity nor financial gain and had told very few people of her experience. In my opinion, having interviewed the witness at considerable length, she is perfectly sincere. She had no objection to her full name and address being published but I keep this confidential to avoid the possibility of any embarrassment to her husband.

Peter A. Hill,
Chairman, Wessex Association for the Study of Unexplained Phenomena (WATSUP),
7 Malmesbury Place,
Shirley, Southampton.

[I should like to add that Mr. Hill is a Member of the Institute of Work Study Practitioners and therefore trained in observation and interviewing, and in cultivating a logical and objective approach to problems. Two details are to be added to his report following my enquiry: (a) Mrs. R. specifically stated that she was not at all nervous and felt she had been prepared in some way for the experience; (b) She wrote to Mr. Hill following his appearance on "Day by Day," a Southern Television local news programme (he was interviewed after informing them of the setting up of his UFO Association)—ASSISTANT EDITOR.]

UFO seen above hospital

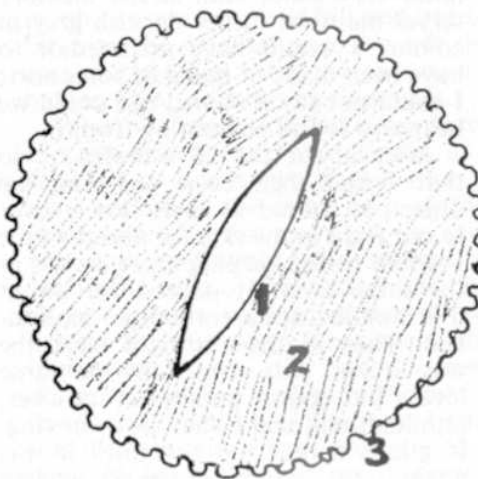
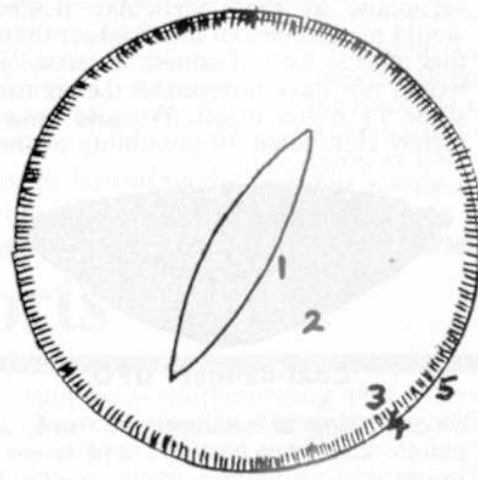
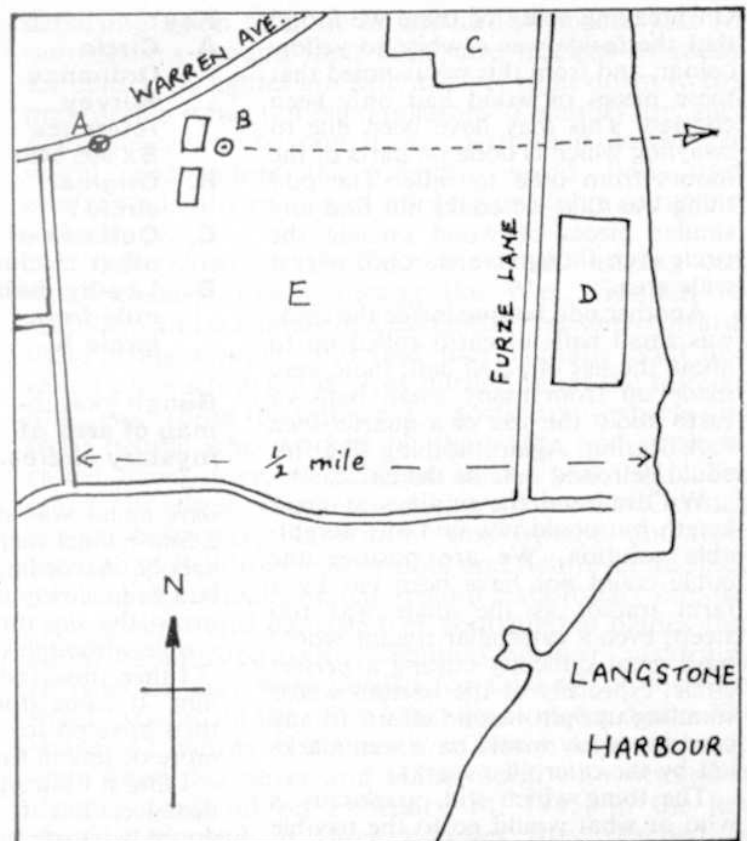
Dear Sir,—A UFO was observed by two nurses, a porter and a patient, at St. James' mental hospital in Milton on March 31, 1973. At 7.00 a.m., the nurses, Mrs. Ludford and Mrs. Winsor, were leaving the hospital by the Warren Avenue gate after finishing

Below, centre Sketch based on Mrs. Ludford's drawing of what she saw.

- Key:**
1. Silver cigar shape;
 2. Intense white light;
 3. Edge of illumination fairly sharp;
 4. Dark grey ring;
 5. Edge of ring hazy

Below, bottom Sketch based on Mrs. Winsor's drawing.

- Key:**
1. Silver cigar shape;
 2. Hazy smoke-like area (dark grey);
 3. Scalloped effect on edge



night duty when they saw the object above some hospital buildings to the east. The UFO appeared cigar shaped, although the witnesses think it may have been a disc seen sideways. Its surface was shiny, silver in colour and completely featureless.

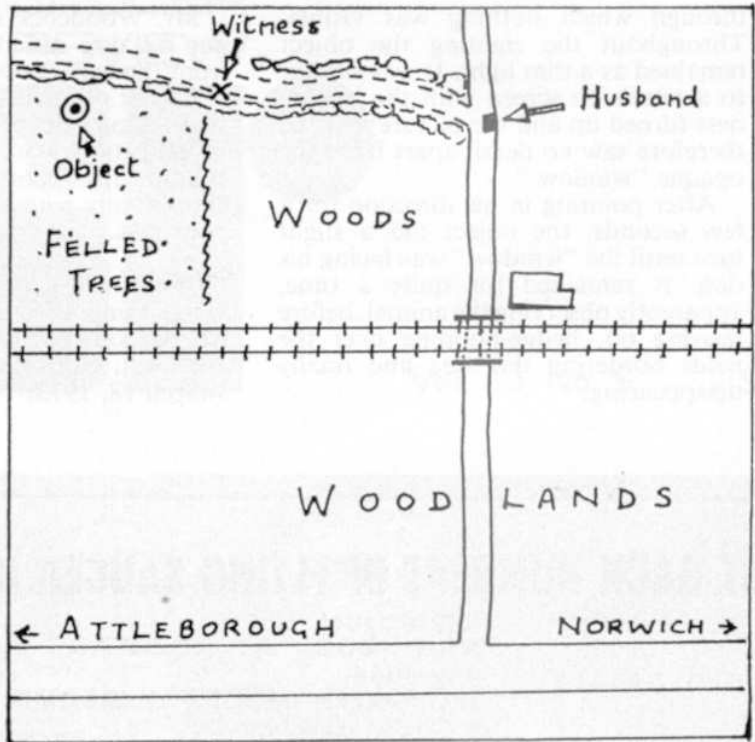
Mrs. Winsor alerted a porter and a patient to their sighting and were then joined by them in viewing the object. The UFO had an apparent length of 1-2 feet and hung motionless at an angle of about 60°. Emanating from it, according to Mrs. Ludford, was an intense white light which hurt her eyes when she looked at it directly. Around the area of illumination, which was roughly circular, was a dark grey indistinct ring, although she thinks this was perhaps an optical effect caused by the intensity of the light (Mrs. Ludford is long-sighted).

Mrs. Winsor agreed on the shape of the object, but the surrounding effect was observed differently by her as she didn't see the illumination at all; instead she observed a dark grey, indistinct smoke-like area completely surrounding the UFO. There was no movement such as swirling within this area and it was roughly circular, having around its perimeter a scalloped effect which Mrs. Winsor claimed was quite beautiful.

The object had an apparent height of 10-15 feet above the hospital buildings, the latter being about 30 feet tall and situated approximately 150 feet from the witnesses. After remaining stationary for an estimated

Left (p.16)
Key to hospital sighting

- Key—
- A. Position of the witness
 - B. Estimated position of object (dotted line shows path of departure)
 - C. New houses
 - D. Milton Training College Hostel
 - E. St. James's Hospital and grounds



Right
Location of Mrs. Mason's sighting

4 minutes, the object slowly receded towards the east and in a further 10 minutes had diminished to the apparent size of a ½-pence piece, the cigar shape quickly becoming lost in the illumination. As the UFO moved off, Mrs. Winsor still didn't perceive any light emanating from it. Unfortunately, the witnesses didn't observe the UFO further, but made their way home somewhat puzzled.

No sounds or odours were noticed and the sky was grey, although clear of cloud, the sun still being low. Furthermore, no wind was apparent.

Mrs. Winsor is aged 57 and Mrs. Ludford about 40 and they have given permission for their names and addresses to be published in connection with the sighting, although the porter and patient have so far remained anonymous. Neither of the nurses had any interest in the subject of UFOs prior to their sighting.

Nicholas Maloret,
180 Locksway Road,
Milton, Portsmouth,
Hants.

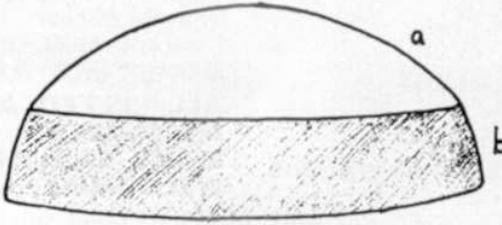
Strange disappearance of UFO in wood

Dear Sir,—You may be interested in the following letter I received as a result of my letter to the local newspaper asking for people who had seen a UFO and not reported it to contact me. It is from Mrs. F. Mason of Meadow-Way, Dodds Road, Attleborough, Norfolk.

"Dear Mr. Tye,—I read your letter in the *Eastern Daily Press* on March 16 about unidentified objects. In September, 1970, I couldn't say the date, I was out with my husband. I was pick-

ing blackberries and it was about 4.30 p.m.

"I took a walk into a wood which had just a rough track. I had only gone about 200 yards at the most, and I looked ahead of me and saw what at



The object seen by Mrs. F. Mason: (a) of glassy appearance; (b) metallic blue

first I thought was a parked car. Knowing I should not have been in the wood (*it was private land—D.F.T.*) I thought, if it is a car, it must have come in this way as it is the only entrance from the main road. After standing there for a minute or two I realised it was something supernatural. It didn't scare me, and I would have dearly loved to get my husband to see it, had he been able-bodied instead of disabled with multiple sclerosis. I'm sure he would have been able to see what I saw. After what seemed minutes, it just vanished.

"After it had gone, I went back and told my husband. He believed me, but other people I told thought I was going round the bend. It's the first time in my life I have seen anything like it, and I am now in my 65th year. I left my husband once again and went back into the wood to the spot where I had seen the object. I looked around

but saw no trace of anything. "The bottom part of the object was a metallic blue (I would describe it as powder blue) and the top half looked like what I thought was glass. I could not say the shape. At first I thought it was a car. There was no noise from the object.

"After I collected my wits about me I went to the spot where it had stood and afterwards dematerialised. I had a good look round but found no signs that there had been anything there at all. No burning or scorch marks. I found nothing at all. I hope to live to see the day when someone finds out what these objects are all about.

"I'm sorry I cannot give you any more information about this. I don't suppose I will ever see another one. If I did, I should try to approach it. On looking back, I can't think why I didn't this one. Perhaps because I was spellbound, or because it took me by surprise. Yours sincerely, Frances Mason."

The lady sent me a sketch of the wood showing where the incident occurred, and on writing to her a second time, I obtained a sketch of the object she saw.

Dennis Tye,
OMUFORG (Open Mind UFO Research Group),
Group Co-ordinator,
41 Beaconsfield Road,
Norwich, Norfolk.

UFO confronts farm labourer

Dear Sir,—Since forming our group some weeks ago, we have already been very fortunate in getting UFO reports from people in the Norfolk area, although up to now these have been reports of the "lights-in-the-sky" variety. But today I had a visit from a farm worker who had seen an advertisement of mine in the local press. It requested information from local people who had seen a UFO, either in the past, or recently, but had not reported it.

My informant had apparently not reported his sighting to any organisation before as he thought he would be considered a crank. But on interviewing him I found him to be a very ordinary down-to-earth person who without doubt had had a very genuine experience.

The witness is Mr. W. Woodcock of Docking Farm Bungalow, Oulton, near Aylsham, Norwich. This is his story:

Mr. Woodcock was taking his dog for a walk in the early evening when he saw a steady glowing light coming down from the sky and moving in a shallow glide towards him. I asked whether he had had any sensations or felt fear. He replied that at first he thought of diving into the ditch which runs the

length of that field, but the fear then subsided as nothing appeared to be happening to him, and then curiosity took over. The only sensation he noticed was a slight vibration all around him, emitted by the object.

When the object came within twelve feet of Mr. Woodcock, he was then able to discern its shape which he described as spherical, with a depth from centre-top to centre-bottom of four feet. The overall diameter of the craft was approximately 8 or 9 feet.

In the side of the object he noticed a single opaque round "window"

through which nothing was visible. Throughout the sighting the object remained as a dim light. It was similar to a television screen with the brightness turned up and the picture lost; he therefore saw no detail apart from the opaque "window."

After pointing in his direction for a few seconds, the object did a slight turn until the "window" was facing his dog. It remained for quite a time, apparently observing the animal, before moving off, hedge-hopping over the fields bordering the area and finally disappearing.

Mr. Woodcock said that neither he nor his dog suffered any after-effects from the experience.

As the occurrence took place a few years ago, I do not think any further investigation would be worthwhile. I submit this report to you in case it should tally with some similar case in your files.

Dennis F. Tye,
Open Mind UFO Research Group,
41, Beaconsfield Road,
Norwich, Norfolk.
March 18, 1973.

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