

AFU NEWSLETTER

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The Bill Caulfield UFO collection

We are very proud to announce AFU's first acquisition of a major American ufo-related collection. In January 2007, we were contacted through e-mail by **Mrs. Cherie Lowe** from Oklahoma, who wrote:

"My father, **Bill Caulfield**, recently passed away. He was an avid UFO investigator/researcher for over 45 years and amassed an extremely large collection of UFO books, magazines, journals, tapes, taped interviews, and original photographs. We would be interested in selling all of this, and wondered if you purchase collections, or refer to those wanting to purchase. We would be willing to sell this for a very reasonable amount, and would like to see it kept intact if possible. Dad was deeply involved in some of the big stories throughout the years, including those of his personal acquaintances, **Scott Corder** and **Donna Butts**, **Guido Franch**, **John Otto**, among others".

We have since had a tight mail and telephone communication with Cherie Lowe, who has been extremely helpful. The result is that we have bought the complete collection (except for a few books sold on eBay) for a substantial, yet reasonable, sum, paid to Cherie's mother, **Bonnie Caulfield** in Kansas City (Missouri), this July.

The deal was only possible after a collection of money had been organized by UFO-Sweden's chairman **Clas Svahn** among his many contacts in ufology and other parts of the international society. The money collected (we won't mention any sum here, but it was a very substantial sum) **bears evidence of the broad willingness, at least in Scandinavia and the UK, to support AFU's goals of preservation. Thank you, everyone!**

The historical collection was carried across America from Missouri and over the big pond, by Kuehne and Nagel, a most helpful transport group. It left Halifax in a container on board the Swedish vessel Atlantic Conveyor, arriving in Gothenburg on Sept. 28.

We have just paid the roughly 1.000 dollars fees for trans-Atlantic shipping of 300 kilos and are having quarrels with the Swedish customs about the further 500 dollars value added tax charged. We think this is unreasonable for a collection of merely historical value. The collection will arrive in Stockholm, during

the second week of October, and will, first, be taken care of and sorted by Clas Svahn, before cataloguing and sorting onto the shelves of the AFU archives.

For the benefit of the many of us who do not know who Bill Caulfield was, Cherie has written, with much humour, a personal portrait of her dear father:

William "Bill" Caulfield

Dec. 19, 1925 – Jan. 17, 2007

My Dad was **William "Bill" Caulfield**. Sadly, at the age of 81, he passed away in January 2007 from a malignant brain tumor. Married to **Bonnie** for 54 years, with three children, Dad was an executive with a major airline for 33 years, and later ran two very successful businesses with Mom.



His interest in flying saucers began when he was a young man in Denver, Colorado. He had met a young woman whose father was a general in the Air Force. She shared the story her father had told her of dead alien bodies transported from Roswell after a crash landing of a UFO.

Later, he read one of **George Adamski's** first books, and was hooked! While living in California, he joined a UFO organization in Los Angeles, where they would

travel to Giant Rock, CA, to listen to Adamski, and others, tell their stories. It was an exciting time in the UFO field. Poor Dad... He spent many a cold night out in the California Mountains with two little old ladies who claimed they could bring saucers in at will! Alas, he never saw any.

He met **John Otto**, when we moved to Chicago in 1961, who had a radio show called "Out of this World with John Otto," and became fast friends. I'm sure some of you will remember my Dad from the "good 'ole days" when the UFO story was young, exciting, and full of new adventures, from the first contactees and abductions to crop circles and, of course, worldwide sightings.

Dad was always right in the middle of the next "big" story. His passion was discovering the truth about flying saucers, and he spent most of his adult life pursuing his hobby of investigation and research on the subject.

He knew all the pioneers of the late 40's through the 70's...men like George Adamski...Dr. Frank Stranges, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Jacques Vallée, Linda Moulton Howell, Morris K. Jessup, Major Donald E. Keyhoe, Daniel Fry, Albert K. Bender, Otto Binder, Bud Hopkins, Captain Edward Ruppelt, John Keel, Reinhold Schmidt, Wayne Aho, George VanTassell, Gabe Green and so many more.

I spent my childhood growing up around all these names and stories, many of which I found terrifying at the time. I still remember when the story of the Men in Black came out. I thought I would never sleep again! On summer vacations, sometimes Dad would take me with him to visit people around the country who had experienced sightings. I took it for granted that everyone knew all about UFO's and was certain I'd get to ride on one someday! After homework was done, I'd grab a FATE Magazine to read, like any other kid would grab the comics!

Through the years, Dad met so many extraordinary and interesting people. He would typically sit down with them to listen to their stories, and before long, they were calling him their friend. He had a warm and trusting nature, endearing him to most who knew him, and investigated so many stories throughout the years.

His last big investigation was the **Donna Butts/Scott Corder** story. He served as a consultant on the making of a Japanese documentary on them and was instrumental in the writing of their book, **The Four**; and, though it ended up in a bit of a disappointment for him, he remained a loyal friend to them both until his death.

But, the most fascinating story he ever researched and became involved with, for me, was about a poor,

unassuming man by the name of **Guido Franch**. Their relationship spanned more than 20 years, and although many doubted Guido's sincerity at times, I know Dad always believed and respected him.

After Dad retired, he turned his hobby into more of a full-time pursuit, lecturing across the U.S. on the UFO story. During this time, he wrote several published articles, a booklet, and a book he co-authored with two others. He also published an audio tape on upcoming world events that concerned the end times and how they would play out with ufology. He felt such urgency in sharing his knowledge with anyone who would listen, as he believed UFOs would someday play a larger role in all of our lives here on Earth.

I know that Dad would be so proud to have his life's collection of books, interviews, magazines, photographs and other UFO materials archived with AFU. Mom and I sincerely hope that they will be read, listened to and enjoyed by thousands of people for many, many years to come.

Cherie Lowe

Back in business!

AFU is finally back-in-business after a three year long (2006-2008) "preoccupation" with the consecutive renovations of our physical localities, and **the moving-about-with-the-materials** this resulted in. A tiresome, but very interesting period where we have moved, mostly on carts and by hand, 700 shelf meters of archives & library collections back & forth a few hundred meters in two directions. Papers are seldom light weight!

We now have the majority of our archives in the right places, at least for the immediate future, and we will also have a good deal of **new** space for future archives & donations!!! And – what is probably the best - our localities are fresh with new painting, new floors, new water pipes and new steel doors. A much lower risk for flooding, or fire! Gradually we will come back to what we are best at - 'our core' - **archiving, preserving and helping people to find old data.**

Our **three** main work facilities are all lined up within 200 meters distance along the same street. We are contemplating to continue renting a **fourth** facility, which is our oldest (and smallest) archive, in fact the place where we first moved in - in 1980. A lot of tradition in those walls; it's hard to say goodbye and let that one go away from us! This place may possibly be turned into the home of another - **non-UFO, yet 'phenomenal'** - Swedish library, possibly under future AFU management, if we can handle that too. For the moment, we won't say more on that issue, until we have a final agreement with the other party.

We are seeing the completion of the goals set forth in the previous issue of this newsletter more than two

years ago (see "Some visions for the future of the AFU foundation", AFU Newsletter # 51).

1. We **did** get the money (82.000 SEK) sought from the **Swedish National Archives** for acquisition of (second-hand) compact-type shelves in October 2006. They were installed in December that year, and have since been **crammed** with materials during the moving-about period. "Without them we wouldn't have survived". Thanks to Swedish folklorists **Ebbe Schön** and **Bengt af Klintberg**, **Sandra Lindström** (the Swedish official "Nick Pope"), and to Britain's **David Clarke** for signing and supporting our successful money request. The compact-shelf archive can hold more than 500 meters of materials and has an area of 72 square meters.

2. About half of the new shelves-on-wheels (i.e. five full wagons) are occupied by about **25.000 magazine issues from all over the world**. The upper three shelves, in each section, contain our original "master" copies, while the three lower shelves usually are occupied by big cardboard boxes full of surplus back issues of many, many titles, sorted by volume and number. Every "serial" issue should be registered in our database, which is available as a 250+ page PDF at www.afu.info/mags.htm, although we have discovered "holes". We plan to renew the downloadable catalogue at least once each year. Our (slightly older) HTML listings make it possible to "google" any title on the internet and get a hit.

3. Our previous library has been renovated **into fresh new working facilities with six work tables**. 62 square meters is this place. The facility is fresh with a new kitchen area (water sink, coffee machine, refrigerator, micro), a new toilet (both of them for AFU personnel and visitors **only**), new paintwork, new floors, a new ventilation system (less archival dust in the air we breathe!) and a new steel door to replace the olden wooden one. New cling-films on each of the six windows make the place bright in daylight despite that we are in the cellar floor, but keep us safe from too much "unwanted insight". **Håkan Blomqvist** enthusiastically decorates the walls with posters, paintings and other memorabilia to make the place as cosy and "ufological" as possible.

4. The previous (cable-connected) phone has been replaced by a **new mobile (cell) phone**. You can reach us – preferably during lunch time hours in Sweden – at **+46 703 68 32 21**. (The old +46 11 13 86 66 line will soon be terminated).

5. The previous working facility has been renovated into our **new book & media library** with some 60 book shelves (six new ones this summer) to form sort of a maze along the walls and on the floor. The library has an area of 75 square meters and is now behind two almost unbreakable steel doors.

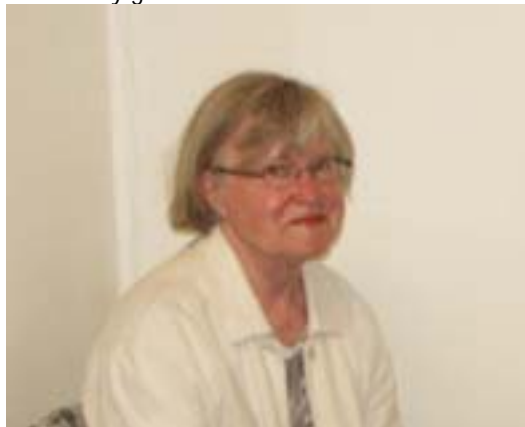
6. Work proceeds every day with getting a **final good order of the books & documents collection**. We have just invested 5.000 SEK in a new computer that holds our book Access database. Here book searches can be made and books can easily be assigned a new (better) shelf code. Our collection is being "fine-tuned" according to our **Ufocode classification system**, which we devised 25 years ago and which now is coming into full use. The new order of one or two shelves per subject matter will aid us, and our visitors, and will also provide natural places for keeping special collections such as clippings, documents, video/CD/DVD documentaries, etc related to any particular subject. We are, eventually, aiming at a **media library** - not only restricted to printed books.

In a few months time, when we have gotten the final order to our collections, and decorated our facilities we will publish a **new photo tour series** at www.afu.info and there are also plans to record a **new documentary** that can be sent to prospective donors to help them decide about the future of their collection. We are also thinking about formulating a new information leaflet which will include our future **access policies** for the archives.

Anders Liljegren

New AFU librarian

On Sept. 16 we welcomed and introduced our new librarian, **Ingrid Collberg**, who will start working for us in late October when, hopefully, there is a preliminary good starting point for her - the library will then be in a reasonably good order.



Ingrid is a professional librarian who has worked with the Norrköping community library as their head of cataloguing. She became a pensioner last April and wanted to make something useful and interesting of her new leisure time, so she contacted her colleague **Håkan Blomqvist**, a librarian at the same community library and co-founder of AFU.

Ingrid will be an asset to us with her experience in cataloguing books and general librarianship. Plans are that she will take over all cataloguing of incoming books from **Anders Liljegren**. There have been years

when we have catalogued more than 700 new book titles!

Ingrid will join the previous five-headed team of **Sven-Olov Svensson, Sandra Aronsson, Anki Mårdh, Håkan Blomqvist** and **Anders Liljegren**, who all come to AFU at least once each week, often every day, to perform work on different tasks. This autumn season we also have **Monica Perralta** and **Patrik Loreman** as work trainees with us.

The Jan Ove Sundberg collection

In recent years Swedish journalist **Jan Ove Sundberg** has sold most of his UFO-related collections to AFU, paid for by Anders Liljegren and the AFU acquisition fund (where money comes from the collections under the whip of Clas Svahn).

Jan does not intend to return to ufology where he was one of early field researchers for UFO-Sweden, in the 1970s, and has edited a number of ufo / fortean magazines plus written two fortean books, **Fantomubåtarna** (The phantom submarines) in 1993 and **Storsjödjuret, Nessie, Seljordsormen och andra sjömonster** (The Lake Storsjön beast, Nessie, the Lake Seljord snake and other sea monsters) in 1995. Two years later he founded **GUST (Global Underwater Search Team)** - www.cryptozoology.st/ - which has performed about 30 searches for lake monsters in Sweden, Norway, Scotland and Ireland.



A few years ago we bought Jans collection of UFO-related audio cassette witness interviews and related illustrative materials, such as photos and sketches. This batch included – among others – the basic material for Jan's projected book on Swedish abductions, a book that never materialized. The file includes rare interviews with some 30 close encounter witnesses.

It also included much of the background material for his book on "phantom submarines", inspired by the wave of sometimes mysterious submarine violations of Scandinavian waters in the 1980s, where more than 6.000 reports came to the Swedish navy. Jan

performed unique direct interviews with witnesses of "submarine" and "diver" incidents along the Swedish coasts.

The most recent acquisition came late in August when Anders Liljegren and Håkan Blomqvist fetched the materials in Jan's home in Motala. This acquisition includes the very last portions of Jan's remaining UFO / USO-related archives, while he now concentrates on his fortean **GUST** searches. Included in this batch of materials was Jan's file of his complete writings for UFO, fortean and professional magazines throughout the years, correspondence files (with John A. Keel and many others), plus Jan's file of clippings and written interviews from the submarine project. All of these are very important additions to our files, in line with the preservation work we are trying to perform.

Since 2001 Jan has been a victim of cancer in his spine, with numerous operations and a (several times) postponed death sentence. Jan has a high driving force that has obviously helped him through the troublesome years. While visiting India, in 1991, an Indian astrologer prophesised Jan would attain the age of 83, a prophecy Jan is always eager to inform his operating doctors about.

Anders Liljegren

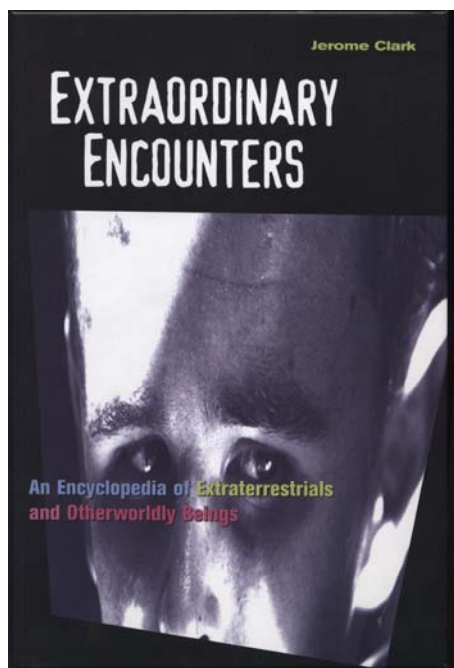
Book reviews: **Extraordinary encounters**

Jerome Clark is something like an intellectual doyen of mid-stream American ufology. In his tracks he has a row of tome-like encyclopaedias in "our" area, and decades of dedicated work (first) as the UFO editor of well-known **Fate Magazine** and (later) as the chief editor for **International UFO Reporter (IUR)**, the historically inclined journal published by the **J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS)** in Chicago. There are few aspects of the great UFO-fortean puzzle that Clark hasn't acquired a deep knowledge about.

On the American eBay market there is thousands of UFO books, magazines and DVDs offered – often of a questionable quality. Now and then you can make a real find, however. Sometimes there can be books that you might never have heard about. This was the case with the "small" (290 pages) encyclopaedia **Extraordinary encounters** by Jerome Clark, published seven years ago. Was it ever reviewed by anyone, or was I asleep that year? Anyway, I got the distinct feeling that this could be a valuable addition to the AFU reference library. I won the auction at a very reasonable price and with no competitors! I am very satisfied with the acquisition!

This small pearl in the UFO literature takes on the most remarkable contacts that take place on the border between reality and unreality. The subtitle is

An encyclopedia of extraterrestrials and otherworldly beings. Despite the fact that Jerome Clark has a steady foot in extraterrestrial belief camp as being “the best explanation for UFOs”, few American researchers have such a breadth and credibility in their search. The other American whom I could think of as being the possible author of an epos like this would be **J. Gordon Melton**. (With a recent similar contribution received here – since first writing this review – by **Martin Kottmeyer!** Editors comment)



Extraordinary encounters include almost 300 search words from A to Z. The search terms are mostly the names, “race types” or planets (or star systems) of origin that “extraterrestrials” and non-worldly visitors have claimed in their contacts with earthly humans. Differing from **Aetherius** to **Zagga**. Lucky for us there is an good cross-index at the end where one can find more logical doors into the texts. **King, George** leads you to **Aetherius** and **Dean, John W.** will lead you to the text under **Zagga**.

In the book you find an entertaining mixture of the wide ufological folk belief: abductions, peaceful 1950s contacts, channelled messages, contacts with worlds within our earth, religions visions, contacts with folkloric beings, UFO sects and a number of other (im)possibilities. All of this is written and edited with a sound scepticism that seemingly never walks over the line to character assassinating criticism.

The understatement is that all of us (?) realize that these stories can hardly have so much to do with the material world, but more likely acts out in a rich psychological inner world. The one who takes all of this for real must blame him/herself if he/she suddenly experiences a multi-schizophrenic reality of uncountable numbers of completely contradictory

worldviews!! But that’s what contactee ufology has always been like for us semi-sceptics.

Jerome Clark has a unique overview of the literature. By necessity this knowledge is mostly restricted to the Anglo-American world. In the book there are countless numbers of **rare sources** which we eventually hope to be able to add, at least one copy, to the AFU library, but also ‘new’ non-print contactees, only found on the Internet. Some of the new contactees find new media for their messages. Yet, the 300 cases are only some 20 % of the number of contact cases AFU archivist **Sven-Olov Svensson** has catalogued world-wide.

These last years AFU has been able to buy some of the literature Clark refers to, through eBay. Most prominently the “channelled” (psychic) messages. Honestly speaking, channelled messages are among the most boring of all things you can read! I must confess my admiration for Clark just being able to find the energy to go through all that “trash”! AFU saves these books and manuscripts more out of a felt obligation to preserve it all for the future.

His summaries provide cross-roads to the centre of these spider’s webs of more or less home-cooked ideas and philosophies. I am even thinking of copying some search words out of the book and put Clark’s texts as introductory info in many of the obscure books we have on our library shelves. But – as usual – shortage of time puts a lid on this project.

What is included in **Extraordinary encounters** may seem like information left over, or refused from, Clarks other published encyclopaedias...? So fine, then, that these interesting texts also were regarded as worthy of the printing ink!

Anders Liljegren

Jerome Clark: *Extraordinary encounters*. ABC-CLIO, Santa Barbara, California, 2000, 290 pages.

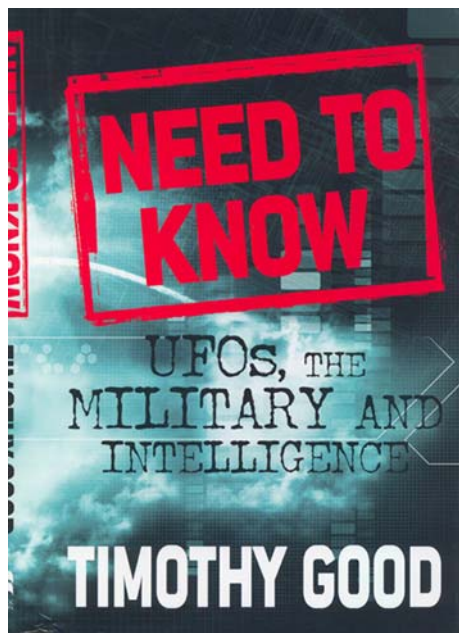
Need to know

When the first book from the pen of **Timothy Good** **George Adamski – the untold story**, written in collaboration with **Lou Zinstag**, appeared in 1983 I was happily surprised. Finally, someone who did an in depth documentation of the classic 1950ies contactee. I had often wondered why no one of the American ufologists had taken on this task. Perhaps it was because of the earlier, very strong polarisation in American ufology that it became an Englishman who did the first thorough investigation and study of George Adamski.

The really **controversial** side of Timothy Goods’ book was that he did not, like most ufologists, simply dismiss Adamski as a charlatan and hoaxer. Timothy Good presented a large amount of new data which indicated the case was not closed and that we should

take a second look at the classic contactees. I started corresponding with Timothy Good in 1984 and learned a great deal of his sources and views. Something which inspired me in my own investigation of Swedish contact cases.

In 1987 Timothy Good made an international breakthrough with his 590-page tome **Above top secret: The worldwide UFO cover-up**. It made him something of a celebrity and prominent figure in international ufology. A position he has kept and secured with volumes like **Alien liason**, **Alien base** and his latest **Need to know: ufos, the military and intelligence**.



Need to know is a chronology of how the military and intelligence community in various parts of the world has handled the UFO problem – or hidden and conspired to cover up facts of UFO observations and the militaries secret investigations. Timothy Good presents several of the classic UFO reports sometimes with additional data. Of particular interest is his documentation of many older close encounters where pilots have been involved. For example the Australian airforce pilot who in the summer of 1942 found his plane followed by a classic saucer which is then seen diving into the ocean.

The book has chapters on the ghost rockets, Roswell, aircrashes in connection with UFOs, underwater UFOs (USOs) and of course a presentation of the most interesting witnesses claiming to have participated in secret military operations and investigations of crashed saucers.

Need to know is an impressive collection of well documented close encounter cases involving pilots, military and intelligence personnel. Timothy Good is convinced that we are visited by several extraterrestrial civilisations. He also speculated that there may be alien intelligences sharing our earth and

that they have been here a long time. One of his sources is a veteran of American army intelligence claiming that alien visitors have, after the second world war, established secret bases in Australia, the Caribbean, the Pacific, Russia and the United States.

My only criticism of Need to know and also the other books by Timothy Good is that he now and then appears somewhat naïve in his confidence in the trustworthiness of his witnesses, especially contactees. Psychological or sociological explanations or interpretations are seldom discussed. But on the other hand it must be said that Timothy Good has usually done his homework and interviewed the people he writes about.

In view of Timothy Goods' preoccupation with cover-ups and official secrecy regarding UFOs it appears somewhat peculiar that he himself does not believe that governments should reveal what they know about alien visitors. The time has not come for a total revelation of the facts. Social chaos would be the result according to the author. In other words secrecy and the cover-up is, so far, a sound and realistic policy. But the ultimate question then is: who really has a need to know.

Håkan Blomqvist

Timothy Good: Need to know: UFOs, military and intelligence. Sidgwick & Jackson, London 2006, 452 pp. ill.

Landing cases from Italy

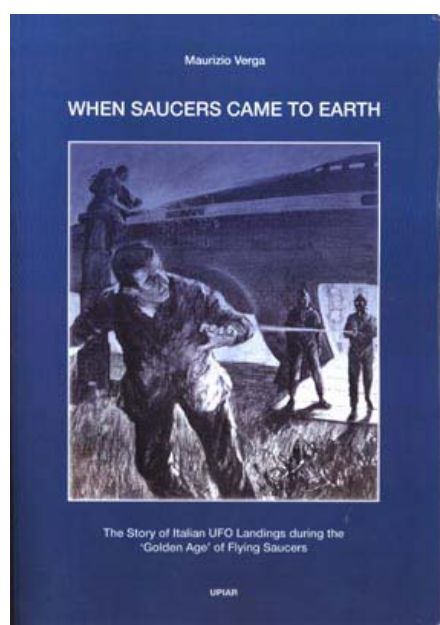
In the early 1990s AFU was visited by an Italian documentary film team that taped a number of interviews and searched for Scandinavian materials during six hectic hours, before boarding the Copenhagen plane for the big world outside Norrköping. With them travelled **Maurizio Verga** as the "ufological" expert from Italy's most serious national group, the **CISU (Centro Italiano Studi Ufologici)**.

We got an insight into the effectiveness of the Italians! There is hardly any European country that beats them with all of their serious UFO publications, highly developed databases, conferences, well-informed participation on international mailing lists (including the **EuroUFONet** which they initiated) - and their archives! In Torino we find the combined **CISU** archives which we (AFU) are eager to co-operate with – when hopefully we soon find more of the time and other resources!

Right on time for the 60th anniversary of the Kenneth Arnold sighting, during the Swedish midsummer festivities of 2007, the Italians invited us other Europeans for a conference in Torino with free accommodations! In the meeting people like **David Clarke** from the UK, **Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos** from Spain and **Jacques Patenet**, director for the

government-run French UFO investigation body **GEIPAN**, took part. Patenet is the man behind the project to publicize all of the combined **GEPAN**, **SEBRA** and **GEIPAN** documentation on the web and he seems quite willing to co-operate with serious private investigators. (Clas Svahn has provided AFU with printed paper copies of these archives for easy access and preservation at AFU.)

When saucers came to Earth is something as unusual as an Italian UFO book translated into English. Compiler is the very same Maurizio Verga, who, besides ufology, is involved with the Italian fashion industry. In the 1980s I remember Maurizio as the editor of the irregular **Computer UFO Newsletter**, an interchange on ideas behind UFO-related databases. That was one or two decades before the Internet age.



The subtitle **The story of Italian UFO landings during the "Golden Age" of flying saucer** tells us this is a catalogue of landings (in the 1912-1954 period) with focus on the ufological "Golden Age" of the 1950s. 61 of the 104 cases come from the 1954 wave. The book was printed only in 100 copies. The market for such specialized, national catalogues is very, very thin!

Some 30 years ago I reviewed **Willy Wegner**'s similar compilation of **Danish** landings, adding the wish that we would soon see a Swedish equivalent. The waiting has been in vain. If any of you readers would be able to help us with Swedish-English translations we could make it, eventually, within a couple of years. We have the materials at AFU but not the manpower (usually used up on a continuous work with **new** collections pouring in...)

About half of Verga's book is filled with the chronological compilation of published landings on the Italian "boot" on the atlas. Each case is classified and

rated. Ratings are conservative. None of the cases get the rating (**seemingly**) **unidentified**, although this is listed as a possibility one in the scale. The most common ratings are **insufficient information** combined with **unreliable** and **possible hoax**.

Six of the cases are listed as (definite) **hoaxes**, for instance the well known series of photos by **Gian Piero Monguzzi** from "the mountains" of northern Italy. In reality the saucer, the saucer man and the background were all models! Another "case" was enacted by a local amateur theatre group who called out visitors from a local bar. The newspapers had – for weeks – written about the ongoing south-European wave of "Martian" sightings. There was no comparable massive wave of humanoid reports in Scandinavia.

Case descriptions vary in length and quality, from a few lines and up to more than 25 pages of texts, clippings and theories for one single case. The most space is used for the well known **Rosa Lotti** humanoid case from November 1st, 1954. She sighted a cone-shaped object with its two passengers, who stole her flowers and a stocking! This case has been translated and published in Swedish UFO media.

Like many early humanoid cases from southern Europe several cases are stumblingly close to a Catholic-Christian interpretation, especially in a similar case 24 years before the Rosa Lotti encounter (in 1930) from the same vicinity, published in 1990. If these cases had occurred fifty or one hundred years ago, the Vatican priests would have been called in to distort it all into a case of the Virgin Mary. Question is: what similar distortions creep into UFO-related images? And the folklorists' tales, with their needed patterns?

UFO cases from Italy, like those from Sweden, and other parts of the world, can be regarded as folkloristic memorates that – now with ufologists behind the pens and the keyboards – are investigated a step further than what is usual in folkloric studies, to find out whether there is some kind of "objective reality" behind it all. Many cases come to light, or become investigated, only 20-30-40 years after "the fact". This is also the pattern in Sweden. "Interesting", detail-rich cases that surface nowadays are **generally** at least one decade old, which makes one suspect that there has been time enough for the percipient to re-think and "phenomenologize" (mystify) what were the first impressions on the retina and through other senses.

Like Sweden, Italy had a new generation of ufologists in the early 1970s, who enthusiastically went into the field to investigate even the old cases from the 1950s. Often they discovered it was then too late to come to some "objective truth". Sometimes it was even impossible to track down a witness to talk to. Some

Italian cases had connections to journalists, either as victims of hoaxers, or as greedy reporters ready to earn a few lire. The same pattern can be seen with the 1896-97 airships in the US and with the 1954 wave of French "Martian" sightings. With Verga's book in hand one is now lacking a similar English rendering of the French wave!

Verga uses the second half of the book to print some of the original newspaper articles in Italian, which is less meaningful to us who can only enjoy the pictures and the general editing techniques. Huge front page pictures of film stars from weekly magazines (with a small saucer-connected headline in one corner) are less meaningful in a work like this. Even with classical beauties like Sophia Loren and Ava Gardner!! Minor quibbles - on the other hand the reproductions from SF magazines, where fantasy often anticipated "reality", are just fantastic. Like in the (now hoax-confessed) Swedish Domsten case one can see the apparent connections to fiction.

Anders Liljegren

Maurizio Verga: When saucers came to earth. The story of Italian UFO landings during the "Golden age" of flying saucers. Edizioni UPIAR, Torino, Italy, 2007. 259 ill., bibliography.

The PREP project

Barry Greenwood, one of AFU's tireless contributors from across the Atlantic, has devised a new scheme in the company of **Mary Castner** (of CUFOS), **Jim Klotz** and **Rod Dyke** (of the (US) Archives for UFO Research) whereby very rare (usually American, but really no limits here...) low-distribution magazines and newsletters can be made available to serious researchers world-wide.

PREP (Periodical Restoration Project) proposes scanning & digitizing of old out-of-print publications, usually from the "golden age" of the 1950s. A number of elusive issues are already scanned and cleaned up to make better copies, when reprinted. The result has been put up on a server for download. Writes Greenwood: "Without a budget of any kind except for the time spent scanning issues of periodicals, there is no hard schedule for posting and no over-scheduling of titles. Once titles are selected for processing, those titles will be finished before any more are added."

AFU has promised to do some scanning of early publications like "The Little Listening Post" and others for the project. In August we had high hopes for a quick progress since we had a second-hand copier/scanner donated to the archives but the scanning function failed when we were to put it into production! We are looking for other solutions, preferably a scanner that can be used by our work trainees directly at the AFU work facility

Collections from two Magnussons

This summer we received the sad news that two of Sweden's most liked old timers in the paranormal field left this world of human consciousness.

Sven Magnusson departed in late June. He was found dead in his home about a week later. Since 1964 he had edited the paranormal & religious publication **Sökaren** (The Seeker). Almost every issue contained something about UFOs, picked with great care from reliable sources, or commented by Sven to set the record straight.

Sven managed 45 years of single-handed publishing. It is now doubtful that **Sökaren** will survive as a publication printed on paper. Clas Svahn visited Sven's former home, accompanied by a caretaker, and managed to save a lot of publications, pictures and correspondence files. In his testament, Sven had otherwise prescribed that **all of his books should be burned** upon his death. Clas managed, however, to save some rare items including a complete set of bound issues of **Sökaren** for the period 1964-2004, which are now on file with AFU.

Barbro Magnuson (no relation to Sven) died on July 25, 64 years old, after many years of fight with her cancer. Barbro was one of UFO-Sweden's best and most respected investigators and she spent many days and nights in the Norwegian Hessdalen valley, where she got acquainted with the local population. AFU has (via Clas Svahn) taken over her complete UFO archive, most of which has now been put into proper order. The collection includes taped first-hand interviews with Hessdalen witnesses (which we already had on loan from Barbro) and a lot of papers, correspondence and documents relating to Barbro's work as a field investigator. You can view more on Barbro's materials at www.afu.info/recdons08.htm where there are also presentations of many other collections received during the past years, since we published the latest AFU Newsletter.

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