

British UFO expert in City

Cape Times

Staff Reporter

10-1-81

SOUTH AFRICAN Government agencies — like the governments of many European countries — are almost certainly withholding from the public information about unidentified flying objects, Mr Timothy Good, one of Britain's leading UFO experts, said in Cape Town yesterday.

"This information is generally seen as a security threat, as well as an embarrassment to the military," he said.

Mr Good is visiting South Africa to make contact with UFO researchers and witnesses. He became interested in the subject in 1955 after reading a book which detailed sightings by military and civilian pilots, astronomers, missile experts and air traffic controllers.

He claims to have sighted three UFOs and says that they are a fairly common phenomenon.

"My particular interest are close encounters of the third kind, rather than ordinary sightings of lights or objects in the sky."

He said that about 70 percent of the latter type could be discounted. This percentage became lower with "close encounters".

It was significant that a massive wave of UFO sightings started throughout the world in 1963 shortly after the explosion of the first atomic bomb on earth. This was also the beginning of man's exploration of space.

"This could explain the increased interest in earth by extra-terrestrial beings," he said.

Since 1967 Mr Good has lectured throughout the United Kingdom at universities, churches and libraries. He is a professional violinist and combines a busy freelance schedule with lecture appearances.

He said that in South Africa people were reluctant to report UFO sightings after seeing how other witnesses were ridiculed.

He is keen to make contact with people who have had "close encounters" or taken photographs of UFOs. He recently completed a book on the subject.