

'Lord Crackpot' and the great cosmic cover-up

By GERRY BROWN

SKY-WATCHING peer Lord Clancarty doesn't just SUSPECT that flying saucers and beings from outer space are visiting Britain—he's "damned sure" of it.

And, what's more, he has literally THOUSANDS of sightings from all over the world to back his claims.

But the guardians of Whitehall's innermost secrets are implacably opposed to most of his ideas and theories.

They insist the 70-year-old peer is nothing more than a time-wasting eccentric.

Each time they receive one of his pestering letters, they groan and flinch, duck and dive.

But the correspondence is difficult to ignore when it comes on House of Lords note-paper from William Brinsley le Poer Trench, eighth Earl of Clancarty.

And next week it could become impossible to ignore if he succeeds in enlisting the House of Lords in his campaign.

This long-running feud between him and the keepers of locked filing cabinets is no mere administrative quarrel.

It is a tussle of cosmic, inter-galactic proportions.

The men from the Ministry who monitor Britain's skies insist we are being visited by nothing more sinister than twinkling meteorites, weather balloons and sparks of badly behaved lightning.

Sketchy

"Rubbish!" is Lord Clancarty's reply to that.

"It's all a cover-up," he claims confidently.

Because officials have given only sketchy explanations and evasive answers about the inquiries, they will be asked in the House of Lords next week, to reveal how many files of the thousands of sightings have been stamped "Top Secret" in the interests of national security.

Lord Clancarty, leader of the peers, is determined to call a full House of Lords debate on UFOs after getting defence officials to admit they examined reports of 2,250



Lord Clancarty: "It's a Whitehall cover-up"

sightings over Britain between 1978 and 1981.

The earl is no wild-eyed newcomer to the ranks of flying saucer enthusiasts.

A former executive for respected technical aviation magazines, he has written four books on the subject of UFOs, and they were world-wide top sellers.

He has also spent more than three decades carefully researching UFO reports from as far afield as South America and Siberia.

As a founder member of a world-wide network of flying saucer investigators—called Contact—Lord Clancarty uses his elegant London home, just off Belgravia's Eaton Square as a command post for harassing civil servants.

"I know they dismiss me as dotty and a bit of a crackpot," he admits happily.

"I'm quite used to

that. I've developed a thick skin, and those tactics don't bother me in the least.

In fact, he's sure it's all part of a deliberate cover-up.

"There are literally hundreds of sightings in Britain every year, and I accept that the vast majority of them can be explained by aircraft, balloons and tricks of the light," he says.

"But there is still a solid body of unexplained evidence which cannot be dismissed lightly.

"It's Government policy to try to pour cold water on the reports of these sightings."

Pilots

And before anyone is tempted to shake his or her head in disbelief, remember it is all the result of 30 years of research—endless talks with pilots, UFO spotters, scientists on both sides of the Atlantic and military experts, plus a long study of some breath-taking, authentic Pentagon and FBI records only recently taken off the secret list in Washington.

Lord Clancarty reveals, quite matter-of-factly: "Beings in flying saucers landed at Edwards Air Force Base in California in 1953 and had talks with President Eisenhower.

"This information comes from a United States Air Force pilot who was asked to be present as a technical adviser.

"The beings brought

five flying saucers with them, and gave Eisenhower a display of their flying skills and their supernatural abilities to become invisible then reappear.

"But that meeting decided it would all be too much of a sudden shock for mankind to cope with, and they agreed to break the news gently over the course of many years.

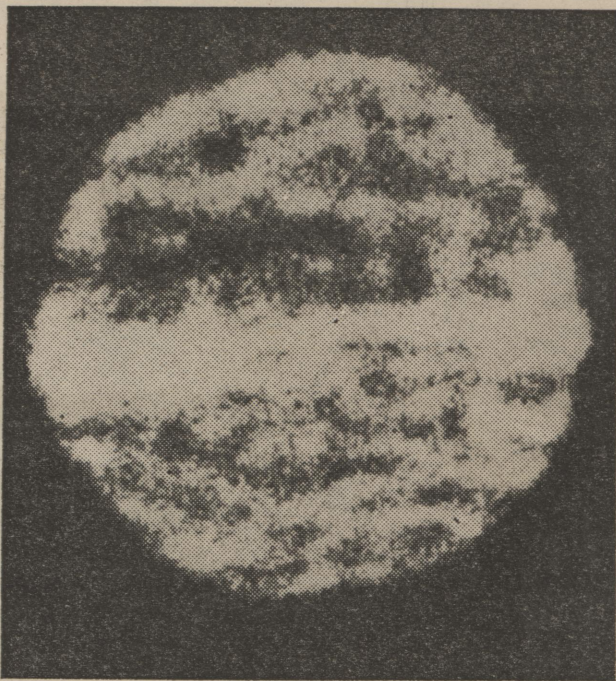
Nuclear

"UFO's have been making more and more frequent appearances over Earth since we exploded our first nuclear bomb, and they are often spotted flying close to our nuclear power installations.

"I believe they are our distant ancestors and put mankind on Earth back in the beginning of history. Now they are coming back to keep a friendly eye on us to make sure we don't blow ourselves to pieces in a nuclear holocaust."

It will be such a pity if Lord Clancarty manages to take a House of Lords crowbar to Whitehall's locked filing cabinets and finds only reports—in triplicate, of course—about falling stars, flickering helicopter lights, hallucinations and hoaxes...

● HAVE you seen a UFO recently? If you think so, tell us about the experience. Write to: UFOs, Daily Star, 121 Fleet Street, London EC4P 4JT.



SPOTTED . . . over New Zealand, Dec. '78



SPOTTED . . . Sheffield 1963



SPOTTED . . . Phoenix 1947

RIDDLE OF AN ORANGE CLOUD

MANY UFO sightings remain unexplained by the Ministry of Defence and other investigators. Here are some of them.

MAY 1981: More than 100 separate UFO sightings were logged around the Moffat Hills, Dumfries, during a six-week period.

Many of the sightings were by volunteers working for the Eskdalemuir Observatory, where a spokesman said: "We have investigated everything from swirling, saucer-shaped objects to orange and red triangles. We can't explain the sightings, and we take them seriously."

Meteors

AUGUST 1981: Ambulance men at Hungerford, Berkshire, watched "an extremely bright light" flying low across the clear night sky. It made no sound, but seemed to separate into two halves, which then travelled side by side before disappearing.

There were no aircraft in the vicinity, and astronomers said there were no meteors or

shooting stars in the sky that night.

SEPTEMBER 1981: Two policemen and more than 20 members of the public reported a cigar-shaped object hovering over Todmorden, Yorkshire, on several different nights.

No explanation was offered by the Ministry of Defence.

NOVEMBER 1981: The British Flying Saucer Research Bureau announced that it was investigating a spate of UFO reports over Bath and Stroud, Somerset.

One report came from a motorist who claimed that as he drove under a mysterious orange cloud, his mileometer, watch and digital pen/clock all moved backwards!

DECEMBER 1981: Police, coastguards and experienced yachtsmen along the Sussex coast reported white lights hanging low over the sea.

There were additional reports of five small white lights encircling a single big one, which vanished as suddenly as they had appeared. Aircraft and planets were ruled out.

JANUARY 1982: Two off-

duty U.S. Air Force ground crew members reported watching "a slow-moving, brightly-lit disc shape" over Hunstanton, Norfolk.

Checks on aircraft movements drew a blank, and the object did not appear on radar screens.

FEBRUARY 1982: A retired naval commander reported "a pulsating orange light" flying over Warwick, where dozens of UFOs have been sighted in recent years.

Keen

He said the orange light was too fast to be a plane, and as a keen amateur astronomer he discounted any possibility that it could have been a shooting star or meteorite.

MARCH 1982: A "lozenge-shaped" UFO was spotted by two policemen as it hovered over Milton Keynes, Bucks.

The object—emitting blue, red and white lights and making a humming noise—was reported to the Ministry of Defence. They said it was probably a plane, but the policemen disagree.



How to get Britain back to work

★ THERE are now four million people living off the State, according to Government figures. They receive about £5,000 million a year in unemployment and social security benefits.

★ It is wrong, in financial and human terms, that there should be three million people unemployed and another million receiving top-up benefits.

★ Maybe they are not as poor or deprived of the necessities of life as they were in the 1932 recession but that is only because of the massive amounts being paid out in benefits.

★ What a terrible and unnecessary drain on the nation's financial and human resources. We cannot afford this to go on. Any employer can tell you how to reduce the scale of pay-outs AND reduce unemployment.

The Government should enlarge subsidies to industry to encourage growth. This would provide more jobs and, therefore, reduce dole payments.

★ The money saved on paying out benefits to people who are now forced to be idle would be recycled over and over again to help industry grow until the dole queues were cut.

★ And industry is in a better position now to capitalise on more assistance from the Government. A CBI report out yesterday shows that industry's order books are getting bigger.

★ And the jobs agency Manpower says fewer employers now expect to reduce their workforce as the demand for labour grows.

★ More people in work are accepting the realities of business by agreeing to smaller wage rises so their firms can become more productive.

★ In that atmosphere, the time is right for the Government to go much further than the Budget in giving industry a boost. The Treasury should be looking for more ways to subsidise industry and to free employers from unnecessary and costly burdens.

★ That way more people will be in work bringing in turn more demand for goods. The State will not have to carry the burden of massive pay-outs.

And that will be good news for everyone.

Right Track

★ FORD are chopping the price of almost every car they make. Good. It is a welcome—and overdue—reaction to the growing backlash among motorists who realise that they are being taken for a ride by the car makers.

★ The car giants have been getting away with too much for too long. It is a scandal that British drivers should have to pay more for their cars than drivers almost anywhere else.

Ford have taken a step in the right direction. We now wait for their rivals to follow their lead and go into reverse on prices.

SPOTTED . . . over Birmingham, Feb. '78