

UFO report sparks huge cover-up

●From our LONDON office

DEFENCE officials in Britain have maintained a discreet silence over sensational claims by a London newspaper that it has official confirmation of an Unidentified Flying Object landing near a base at Woodbridge in Suffolk used by both the United States and Royal Air Forces.

Nor would they:

●Comment on the paper's claims that about 200 civilians and servicemen, British and American, witnessed the event;

●Confirm reports that the spacecraft had been tracked by RAF radar operators.

The paper carried:

●Eyewitness accounts of the landing, including:

●A statement by Art Wallace, a USAF security policeman, now a civilian back in the U.S., who was there; and

●Extracts from an official report on the landing by a USAF Lieutenant-Colonel Charles I.

Halt, an officer stationed at Woodbridge.

According to Art Wallace, there were three beings in silver space suits aboard the craft.

Farm cattle and forest animals went berserk as the sloping, silver spacecraft, about 20ft across at its base, silently glided into land blazing with light.

The craft, he added, "seemed to be expected."

Two days later a series of fast moving objects beaming powerful lights were spotted over the base at Woodbridge by a number of airmen.

The mysterious craft came to earth in a red ball of light at 3 am, December 20, 1980, in a pine forest called Tangham Wood, little more than a kilometre from the joint RAF/U.S. Air Force base at Woodbridge.

According to Wallace, the craft that landed was "about 20 ft across the bottom, with sloping sides up to the top 12 ft or 15 ft high . . . certainly big enough to handle people."

He was one of several airmen sent to investigate the happening in Tangham Wood from

another nearby base, RAF Bentwaters.

They drove in jeeps to Woodbridge, and then into the wood.

Wallace told investigators from an American organisation, Citizens against UFO secrecy, that strange things started happening when they approached the woods.

Blinded

Animals were running in panic, and fuel gauges registered empty, although they knew they were full.

At one stage a medic had to help a security policeman who appeared to have broken down.

Finally he reached a clearing with about 200 RAF and USAF

security people there. Several movie cameras had been set up.

In the centre of the clearing was an object like "a giant transparent aspirin."

Suddenly a red ball of light came towards the clearing and came down in flashes of colors that blinded him.

When he could see again, Wallace approached the machine in the middle of the clearing. It was giving off a bluish, metallic light.

Although he didn't see any beings because he was on the wrong side of the craft, others did.

They told him later there were three of them wearing silver suits.

Wallace claims that he passed out and eventually found himself later in the morning, fully dressed and muddled up to his knees, in his bunk back at the base.

He and several others were called to a meeting and told that what they had seen had been classified top secret.

There were several civilians there who told them that if they ever told the story they wouldn't be believed, anyway.

And another added that, if they did talk, "bullets were cheap."

Although his official report lacks the detail given by Wallace,

Lieutenant-Colonel Halt's official report — headed Unexplained Lights — confirms that strange things happened in the wood that night.

In it he says the lights were seen outside the back gate of the Woodbridge base by two security police patrolmen.

Thinking that an aircraft might have crashed, they asked for permission to conduct a search, and three of them went out.

They reported seeing a glowing object in the forest, triangular in shape, metallic in substance.

It had a pulsing red light on top, and a bank of blue lights underneath.

According to the patrolmen, it was either hovering or on legs.

As they approached it manoeuvred away and eventually disappeared.

Later, the colonel reported the area was checked for radiation and readings were found in three depressions found where the object had been on the ground.

Before filing his report the colonel sought advice from the RAF commander at the base, Squadron Leader Donald Morland.

Morland said later that he knew and respected the colonel and fully believed that he was telling the truth.