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Why the aliens visited town

WHAT would you say if someone in a weird outfit lumbered up and asked if you believed there is life on other planets?

The chances are, I suspect, that you would reply Yes—and smile as you back away.

Enterprising book people New Era Publications recently lauded two men dressed in astronaut suits in Stevenage town centre.

This pair of space-age pollsters put the question to 50 bemused shoppers and—surprise, surprise—they reckon 83 per cent said they thought there was life beyond the wide blue yonder.

Another question revealed that an awful lot of people must keep a wary eye on the sky.

One third of those asked said they felt there is a possibility that an alien race could invade Earth.

Did those questioned think Earth had strong enough defences to resist an alien attack? Yes said 38 per cent—presumably the rest thought they would be enslaved—and 62 per cent believed the Cold War would be forgotten and the East and West would combine to fight off an invasion of little green men.

Half felt that mankind could survive an attack.

Tony Baziuk from the

promotions department of New Era—who happen to be publishers of a science fiction paperback called Battlefield Earth by L. Ron Hubbard—says the questions are being asked in towns throughout the country.

And the resulting data will be passed, he claims, to a House of Lords committee studying unidentified flying objects.

But he will admit, when pressed, that the whole thing really is a marketing exercise. No, really?

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