

She feared they would be beamed to another planet

SPACE ALIEN GRAN STABS GIRLS TO DEATH

A GRANNY stabbed her two little granddaughters to death because she thought aliens were trying to beam them up into space.

Deranged Gloria Stephens believed a machine like a giant vacuum cleaner threatened to suck them to another planet, a court heard yesterday.

In her madness she thought that if she killed the children and herself they would be united in paradise and escape the spacemen.

Frenzied

Stephens brutally knifed Tasha, 10, and Andrea, 7, in the chest when they visited her home during school holidays.

Both little girls also got stab wounds on their arms as they tried to defend themselves from the frenzied attack.

After killing them with a kitchen knife 57-year-old Stephens stabbed herself repeatedly in the chest and also took an overdose of drugs.

When her suicide attempt failed she called the police, answering the door of her home in Harlesden, North West London, in a blood-stained nightie.

The children's bodies

Mad fantasy made her kill

By MIRROR REPORTER

were found under a blanket. Stephens claimed the house had been burgled by two raiders who stabbed Tasha and Andrea.

The Old Bailey was told that Stephens was obsessed with psychic behaviour and spiritualism. And she was dominated by a fear of spacemen.

She believed space ships visited her regularly and beamed her aboard.

She kept plastic bags full of clothing and personal belongings ready for the day they took her away for good.

Her daughter and neighbours spoke of her "bizarre" behaviour.

She often spoke of her

past lives and boasted of having been both kings and queens.

Stephens admitted manslaughter and pleaded diminished responsibility. Three top psychiatrists told the court that she was mentally ill.

She was remanded in custody until a place can be found for her in a psychiatric hospital.