

DAILY TEL 24 MAR 1981

Subjectivity 6-5

MORE THAN 20 people in central China, reports the China Daily newspaper, claim to have seen an unidentified flying

object shaped like a straw hat and of a reddish orange colour.

This is exactly what you would expect Chinese peasants to see, if they thought they saw "UFOs" at all. It is a further proof, if proof were needed, of the subjective nature of these phenomena.

They always appear in the shape of familiar objects. If Chinese peasants wore top hats or trilbies "UFOs" would appear to them in those forms.

In the West, where people are used to complicated electrical gadgets, they appear in th



form of "flying saucers" with bright lights streaming from their portholes.

Why are they always round? Because that is the shape which objects skimming through the air are most likely to be.

Typical housewives in the Stretford Conurbation claim to have seen "UFOs" in the shape of enormous handbags. But when questioned, they invariably describe them as "sort of circular, with green rays coming from holes in the sides and with kind of huge sawn-off umbrellas poking out of the top grasped by what look like housewives from planes in some distant galaxy".