

THE UFO MYSTERIES

THE Sunday Mirror last week revealed astonishing evidence that Whitehall has been keeping UFO sightings secret from the British public.

Today we look at how this cover-up extended to investigations into a remarkable incident at a Suffolk airbase. An incident witnessed by senior military men. We examine this mystery, and below give case histories of other "close encounters" reported in Jenny Randles' book *The UFO Conspiracy*.



Jenny—"The truth is being hidden."

A WEIRD, unearthly light in the forest puzzled the security patrol at a Suffolk air base.

Three men went to investigate — and came face to face with what they are convinced was a UFO.

There, in a clearing, they found a brightly-lit object the size of a small car, apparently hovering just above the ground.

Baffled, the three patrolmen approached the strange craft and one, John Burroughs, tried to touch it.

Later, he was dragged from the forest in a state of shock.

Just what happened

By CHRIS MOORE

That night in December, 1980, in Rendisham Forest has never been satisfactorily explained by the Ministry of Defence.

Author Jenny Randles claims this is part of a massive cover-up of UFO sightings in Britain.

In 1982, the MoD announced it was going to release the thousands of UFO reports collected over the last 25 years.

But 18 months later, the decision was suddenly reversed.

The Ministry wrote to Jenny Randles claiming it now had "neither the money nor the staff" to publish the reports.

At first, the MoD re-

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Miss J Randles
 9 Creefield Road
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Your reference
 My reference
 Date
 21 April 1984

Dear Miss Randles,

Thank you for your letter of 12 March. Since Mrs Titchmarsh, my predecessor here, last wrote to you it has been decided not to publish the reports of alleged UFO sightings we receive. As you may know, we receive hundreds of these reports each year and to prepare them for publication would involve a great deal of editorial work, for which we have neither the money nor the staff. This would, in any case, fall outside our defence responsibilities. It is also not possible for you to be allowed privileged access to these reports. Although they contain no classified papers they are, like all Ministry of Defence files, subject to the Public Records Act. Under this Act official files are, in general, to remain closed for 30 years after the last action has been taken on them.

Well of silence — What the Ministry of Defence told author Jenny Randles

used to admit that anything unusual happened at RAF Woodbridge near Ipswich in 1980.

That was in spite of the fact that DOZENS of US airmen stationed at the base reported seeing the mystery craft that night.

Lieut-Colonel Charles I. Halt, the Deputy Commander at neighbouring RAF Bentwaters — another American base — spotted a red sun-like object through the trees.

And USAF Wing Commander Gordon Williams

even claimed he had seen alien beings alongside the craft—small, large-eyed creatures, suspended in rays of light.

ON the following day, the site where the object had been first seen was inspected thoroughly.

Three depressions were found in the soil—and, according to Colonel Halt's report to the US Air Force Department,

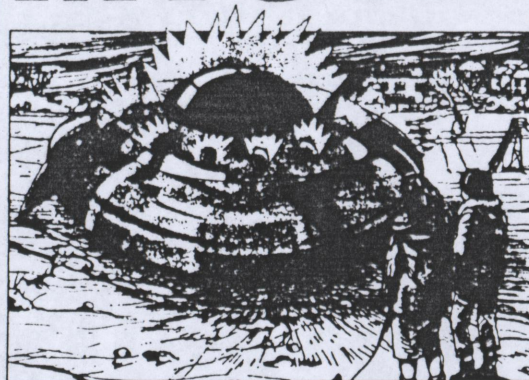
these were radioactive.

The MoD would never have publicly acknowledged the incident but for America's Freedom of Information Act.

Under this legislation, Colonel Halt's memo was eventually released.

Reluctantly the MoD was forced to admit they had seen a copy at the time, but still they refused to comment. It was only when the story reached the British Press that they were stung into action.

Every effort was made



Visitor—what Lynsey and her friend saw while out sledging



Support—Lord Hill-Norton

to demolish the story. The flashing lights in the forest were hastily explained as beams from the Orford Ness lighthouse five miles away.

This would mean that dozens of US servicemen at the two bases had been reduced to panic by something they saw every night.

The mysterious depressions in the forest were rabbit holes. No explanation was offered on how Suffolk rabbits had suddenly become radioactive.

IT seems inconceivable that the MoD received a high-ranking USAF officer—a memo listing himself among the witnesses—yet decided no action was needed.

They could hardly have believed Colonel Halt had involved himself in a monstrous hoax.

How could they have turned their backs on tapes from radar stations tracking the arrival and departure of the unidentified intruder?

It is impossible to believe that no investigation took place.

The memo from Colo-

nel Halt must have resulted in inquiries being made. Any investigation must have produced conclusions. What were they?

For there is no doubt that the MoD DOES probe UFO sightings.

Housewife Lynsey Kent remembers being questioned by a Ministry Intelligence officer after she and a friend saw a strange, egg-like object near her home when she was 10 years old.

"We were out sledging when this object suddenly landed ahead of us," said Lynsey, 22, of Bolton-Le-Sands, Lancashire.

"We went to have a closer look and it took off."

Jenny Randles, author of *The UFO Conspiracy*, says "The truth about UFOs is being hidden—for whatever reason."

"It may be that UFOs are alien devices and the powers that be see no way to cope."

"Bluff and bluster might seem a good response when faced with a magical technology."

Jenny's call for an end to the cover-up has been backed by Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton.

Following a House of

Lords debate on UFOs in 1982, the former Chief of the Defence Staff called on the Government to come clean with the public.

By this time, thanks to the US Freedom of Information Act, he was aware of UFO research by the CIA and FBI.

"What we want is for our own Government to tell us the results of an investigation which sim-

ply must have happened here too," he says.

But the Government steadfastly refuses to do so. The MoD continues to pretend that no such investigation has ever taken place.

"There is no unit within the Ministry of Defence for the study of UFOs," is the Ministry's standard reply.

Have you seen a UFO?

Write to: UFOs, Room 613, Sunday Mirror, Holborn Circus, London EC1P 1DQ.

Encounter with real-life terror

MILLIONS of moviegoers thrilled to an alien landing in Steven Spielberg's *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. They thought it was great science fiction. It was really very close to being science fact.

Nothing was closer to the truth than the sequence where car engines cut out in the path of a UFO.

Jenny Randles claims there have been 1,000 UFO-related car break-downs around the world during the past 30 years, including 60 in Britain.

One night, in Levelland, Texas, in 1957

Pedro Sandoza was driving his truck into town. Suddenly there was a flash, an object hurtled through the sky and his lights and engine died.

But once the torpedo-shaped object streaked away the engine re-started.

More reports flooded in to the police and as usual, the cover-up machinery went into action.

An investigator from the Pentagon was soon on the scene, interviewing witnesses.

He decided the witnesses had only seen "streak lightning".

'Aliens' in silver suits

IN July 1947, a young RAF officer serving in the United States was driving across the mid-west. He switched on the radio and heard excited newscasters telling the story of a spaceship crashing in New Mexico.

That RAF officer was Hughie Green, later to find TV fame. He was transfixed by news of the alien landing and waited eagerly for each bullet.

Yet when he arrived at his destination the story had disappeared from the headlines. Already the authorities were throwing up a wall of secrecy around the incident. The wreckage, they said, was a "weather balloon".

But the man who discovered the debris talked of a shiny disc about 30 feet wide. He claimed that nearby were bodies wearing silvery suits. They were only three feet tall.

Adapted from *The UFO Conspiracy* by Jenny Randles (Williamsons Press, £16.95)

When the flying saucer took off

THE skies over Washington State on America's western seaboard were crystal clear.

It was June 24, 1947, the day a new phrase joined the English language—Flying Saucers.

Kenneth Arnold was 22, a successful businessman and a skilled private pilot.

A US Army-Air Force transport plane had gone down in the mountains. Arnold, heading home to Boise, Idaho, had detoured to join the hunt.

He never did find the missing aircraft. But he sighted no

fewer than nine mysterious flying objects. Strung out in a long line, the flattened crescent-shaped discs, flew in strict formation like a flock of metallic geese.

"They skipped through the atmosphere in the same way you might cast a saucer across a pool of calm water," he reported.

The phrase stuck. Flying saucers leapt straight into the headlines.

The Government wasn't convinced. Official US records list the Arnold incident as a "mirage."

Guest on a space ship

ALAN GODFREY, a police constable in West Yorkshire, was nearing the end of his shift and guided his patrol car around the outskirts of Todmorden.

Just after 8 pm he saw lights ahead of him. "Too early for a bus," he thought. As he drew closer his eyes widened. The lights were coming from a dome-shaped object circled by windows. It hovered soundlessly, just above the road.

His car engine cut out, and as Godfrey stared in disbelief the UFO rose sharply and disappeared. In his report later, he found he could not account for 15 minutes of his shift.

When he submitted to hypnosis, he recalled being taken on board the craft where he encountered aliens with grey-white faces who spoke telepathically.

Godfrey was forbidden by the West Yorkshire police force to discuss these events of November 28, 1980.