

Lancashire Evening Telegraph. August 10, 1987.

Hotline probes East Lancs UFO sightings

A STRANGE fluorescent object spotted flying over East Lancashire is being investigated by the UFO Hotline.

The green object, seen by people in Burnley and Harle Syke, is just one of the hundreds of sightings reported to the Hotline since it was started in June. And the organisers are anxious to hear about any other sightings, even if they happened years ago.

Co-ordinator Philip Mantle said hundreds of phone calls had come in since the hotline was opened: "The oldest we have heard about so far was from a Batley man who encountered a strange being while walking back to his RAF camp one night in 1943," he said.

More recent incidents include a sighting by Hotline co-ordinator Rodney Howarth of Harle Syke: "He saw an unusual object moving in the sky about three months ago. There was also a strange, green, fluorescent glow. There was another report from a lady who saw it a few hours later," said Philip.

A few days later a Burnley man reported seeing a large green circular object moving at tremendous speed over Burnley at 5.30 one morning. The object made no noise as it moved away. "It is very unusual to have three sightings in such a short space of time," Philip added.

He went on to say: "We have received calls from places as far

apart as Blackburn and Birmingham. A great many of the reports were explained away almost immediately as either aircraft or satellites, but we do have a number of UFO reports which are still under investigation because they could not be identified immediately.

On another occasion, a couple who were travelling north on the M1 motorway. At about 9pm, somewhere between junctions 22 and 25, near Nottingham, they both saw a large circular object descend low over the motorway, lighting up the whole motorway before it landed in a nearby field.

On another occasion, a Derbyshire couple, holidaying at Matlock, saw a large triangular object covered in numerous lights, moving slowly over fields without making a sound.

Hotline organisers want to hear from anyone with any sightings at all, no matter how long ago. The 24-hour phone number is 0524 444049.