

**NEWS OF THE WORLD**

**Sunday**

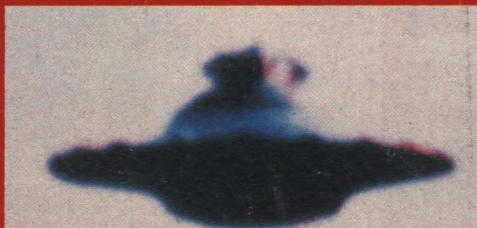
SEPTEMBER 13, 1987

**EXCLUSIVE!**

**ONE MAN'S INCREDIBLE STORY**

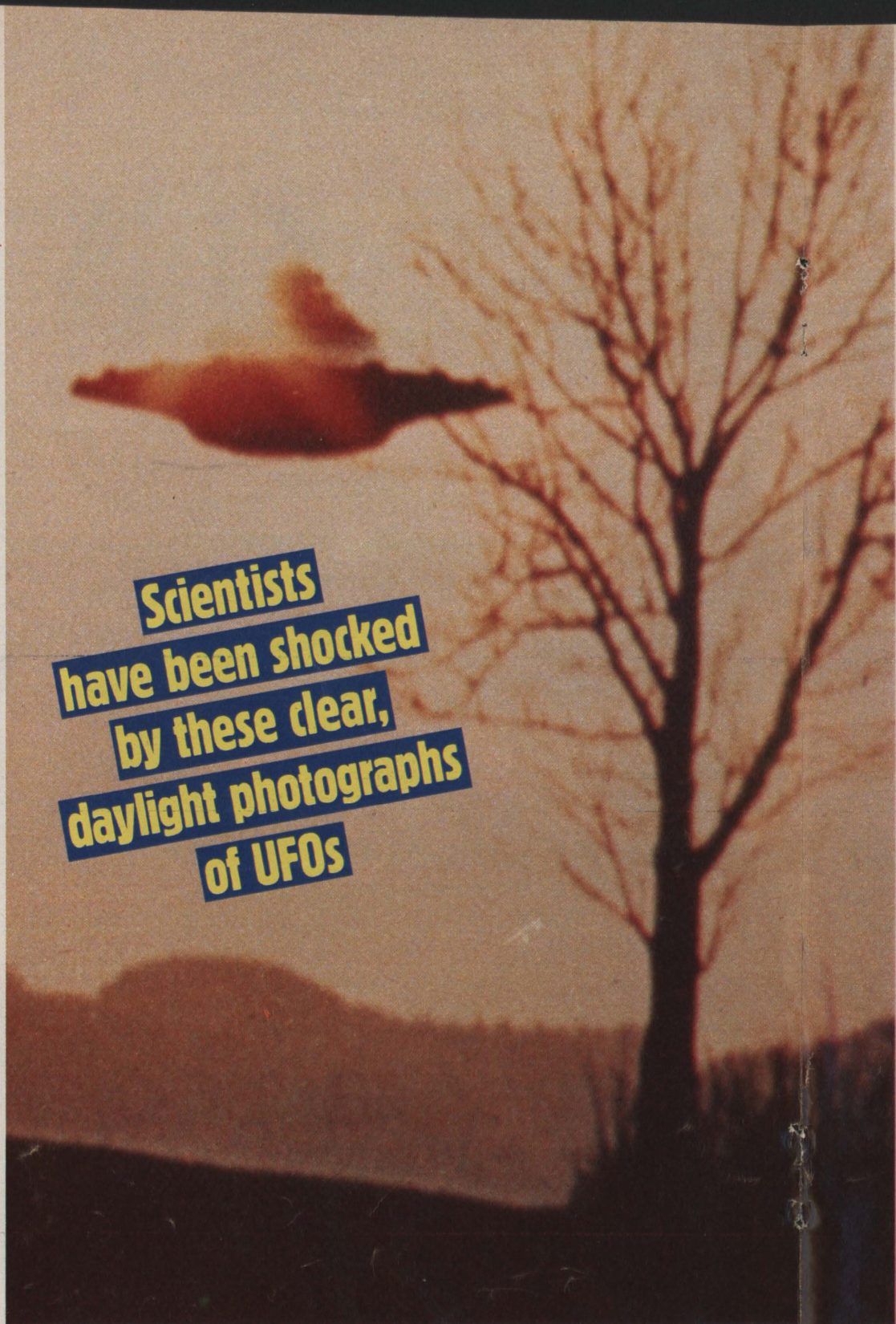
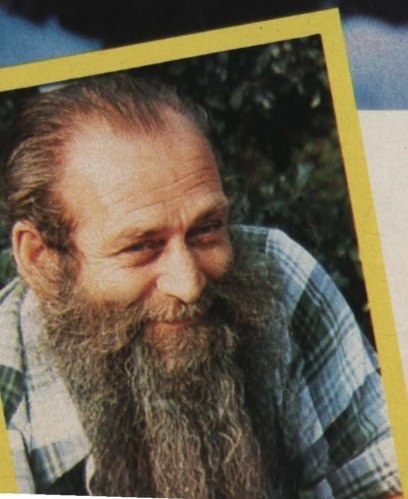
**UFO**

**ONE MAN'S AMAZING PICTURES**





No strings, pulleys or evidence of trick photography – these shots, taken with a simple 35mm camera, have stumped world UFO experts. For the “flying saucer” is in perfect proportion to its surroundings, measuring up to Meier’s description of it being 21ft in diameter



**Scientists have been shocked by these clear, daylight photographs of UFOs**



Video pictures show the spacecraft as it tracks through the skies. Experts reckon this is virtually impossible for a man like Eduard Meier to have faked



One of Meier’s hundreds of pictures, above, shows what he explains as an accompanying remote control craft, while in another, below, a Swiss Air Force fighter on manoeuvres is snapped in the distance. No threat to the spaceship, which travels along at millions of times the speed of light!



**Eduard Meier has no money, little education and only one arm. Yet he claims to be in regular contact with beings from outer space, and to have taken these photos of their ship. Truth or a hoax? Light Years, a controversial new book, has the facts to help you decide...**

Locals in the Swiss village of Hinwil had always thought Meier “different”. They knew he supported his Greek wife Popi and three children on a disability pension, for the loss of an arm in a bus accident. In the past he’d been sent to reform school for stealing, joined the Foreign Legion and had studied philosophy with Buddhist monks.

But no one suspected just how “different” Meier was. For he claims that, since the age of five, he has been telepathically contacted by alien beings from a planet 500 light years from earth, in a star cluster known as the Pleiades.

“It happens like a shot,” he says. “Like a cool wind going across your forehead.” These messages, he claims, directed him to remote locations, where the aliens landed a spaceship about 21ft across and met him.

At first, many people laughed, certain that it was all one huge hoax. But then Meier produced the evidence – scores of clear, daylight colour photographs, showing the spaceship hovering above the trees.

And he showed them a diary, several hundred pages long, in which he had recorded his meetings and conversations with Semjase, a 330-year-old female alien. Those who read this found it beautifully written, full of scientific facts and ideas a man of Meier’s limited knowledge would never be able to dream up.

And so UFO experts from all over the world began to arrive at Meier’s home – most of them determined to catch him out.

One man, Hans Schutzbach, went along to a meadow, where Meier recorded a strange sound, like a high-pitched cross between a jet engine and a chainsaw, which he said came from the spaceship. Later Schutzbach secretly went back to the meadow and tried to re-create the sound, using the tape he and Meier had made. But the speakers and amplifiers were obvious in the trees, and the sound was distant and weak – nothing like before.

Meier amazed all the experts. He gave detailed accounts of the alien lifestyle, world and science. He showed perfectly round “landing tracks” in the grass no one could reproduce. He appeared from nowhere, dry and warm in the pouring rain, and claimed that he’d been “beamed” down from the aliens’ spaceship.

Witnesses also told of strange powers Meier apparently possessed. He held a >

# THEY CAME FROM OUTER SPACE...

**A SWISS FARMER HAS TAKEN THESE REMARKABLE PHOTOGRAPHS. HE SAYS THEY ARE SPACECRAFT FROM ANOTHER WORLD – SO FAR SCIENTISTS CAN'T PROVE HIM WRONG**

two-franc piece in his hand while his whole body shook violently. When he opened his hand, the coin was black and his palm blistered from the heat.

Under the strain of it all, and the ridicule that her children had to suffer, Meier's wife attempted suicide. But all the time, his stock of UFO pictures was growing, until Meier had hundreds. And it is these that have most baffled the scientists. Harold Proch, a professional photographer, studied them closely for signs of models or trick photography. He explains, "For a montage to look real you need a dark background. But almost all of Meier's photos show the ships in a bright blue sky." Daylight UFO pictures are very, very rare.

Proch sneaked into Meier's study and he went through every box, drawer and shelf, searching for models, sketches, experimental film – anything to indicate a hoax. But he found nothing.

Wendelle Stevens, a former US Air Force Intelligence officer, who has spent over 30 years looking into UFO reports, also made a careful study of Meier's photographic sites.

Of one site, Stevens says, "There was no way Meier could have rigged anything because there are no trees around where the picture was taken, no poles – and the ground falls away downhill. We couldn't find anything that we could run wires to. There was no way he could have run a string of wires alone in any case – getting up and down trees with one arm."

Using measuring techniques, Stevens and co-investigators, Lee Elders and Tom Welch, worked out that the spaceship seen in Meier's pictures must have been around 21 feet in diameter – just as he had claimed. "That's often a simple mistake people make when they're hoaxing," Welch says. "The ship they film just couldn't be the size they say it is when compared with other known objects



**Did this spaceship make these landing tracks? Meier says it did – who's proved it didn't?**



in the photograph they've taken."

Stevens and Elders took some of Meier's photographs – and specimens of metal he claimed came from the spaceship – back to the States. And, after magnifying the pictures 10 times and scanning them with sophisticated equipment, a specialist still found nothing to indicate a hoax.

Top Hollywood special effects man, Wally Gentleman, says: "If someone is faking those shots, they have an expert there. This Meier had to have a fleet of clever assistants, at least 15 people, who would know all about angles, lighting and how to support this object so that wires are not seen."

And, he adds, to produce similar faked photos in a studio would cost £20,000 – and require equipment costing another £30,000. Meier says he used an old 35mm camera with a broken viewfinder and jammed focus, that was easy to work with one

hand! Analysis of his metal samples was even more exciting. For one small triangle of metal, appearing to be an alloy of silver and gold, was found to contain many elements bonded together in a way Marcel Vogel, the scientist who examined it, had never come across before.

Astounded, he admitted, "I couldn't put this together myself as a scientist... with any technology that I know of, we could not achieve this on this planet." Another mystery with no explanation... Then there is Meier's strange knowledge. In his book recording his meetings with Semjase

and the other aliens, Meier says they told him about their system of space travel, which enables them to travel vast distances through time at millions of times the speed of light.

Says Welch: "Meier wrote down what he had been told about the method of travel. We did learn later that for some time NASA has been working on it as a propulsion method.

"Also in the notes were conversations about the universe, healing methods and advanced medical equipment that just did not make sense coming from a man in the remote Swiss countryside."

However, some of the numerous UFO investigation groups in the US still dismiss Eduard Meier as a hoaxer. Though they can't prove how a man with no money, no laboratory, no accomplices, a simple camera and one arm has faked "by far the best UFO pictures ever taken".

But many scientists now believe intelligent life probably exists on other planets. Perhaps Eduard Meier can contact that life. What do you think?

Adapted by Roy Stockdill from *LIGHT YEARS* by Gary Kinder, to be published by Viking on September 17 at £10.95. © Gary Kinder and Intercept, 1987

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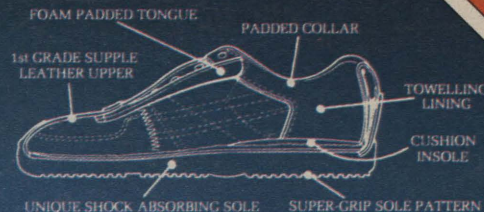
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