

17 APR 1988

UFOs OVER CHASE: RAF CALLED IN

It was this week confirmed that RAF Strike Command - the nerve centre of the RAF - is 'extremely interested' in a huge number of unexplained UFO sightings over the Chase area.

In the last month there have been no less than 38 unexplained sightings - 26 of them over Rugeley and others over Burntwood, Bovey Hry, Lichfield, Brownhills, Willenhall and Walsall.

The normal monthly average is four. Of these two may well be explained away.

The figures were confirmed by John Hurley of the Unidentified Flying Objects Studies and Investigations, who is in the process of submitting a report to Strike Command.

"Something very strange

by
LYNETTE LLOYD

is going on," said John. "These people are quite definitely seeing something extraordinary."

"They are the unexplained sightings which can't be pinned down to being aircraft or air balloons or constellations in the sky."

"In just two hours over Rugeley we had 16 sightings. One of them was from a very frightened 12 year old girl who was with two friends when they saw a huge oval shaped craft hovering at around 600 feet. The bottom of the craft was covered in green, blue and white lights and had a small blue light which moved in and out of the object. It made no noise as it hovered, only when it moved off at a fast pace" said John.

"Whatever she was, it terrified her and she's been

too frightened to leave her home since," said John.

"We had similar sightings from four police officers - two in Walsall and two in Willenhall.

Many of the people who've spotted the craft give descriptions that are amazingly similar.

Most of the sightings occur at night, after 10.30pm.

A Lichfield man spotted a 'cigar-shaped' object hovering over a Lichfield church one morning recently, just before 8am.

Mr Edwards, of Friday Acre, said: "It was huge and had a mushroom shaped top which came down to a long cigar shape underneath."

The latest incident came on Saturday when two men spotted a 'cigar-shaped' object near Rugeley Road in the Hazel Slade area.

The two men, Robert Brough and Andrew Onions, say the object rise from behind trees