

Letters

ADSCENE, NEWSPAPER HOUSE, WINCHEAP, CANTERBURY, KENT. CT1 3YR

Witness UFO sighting was no hoax

happen

I HAVE seen UFOs in the sky from my bedroom window recently, and on one previous occasion about three years ago.

This year, it happened at 1.30am, on July 16, and during the night, but I didn't check the time.

I wonder if the date this year coincides with the experience of the teenagers who claim to have witnessed the landing of a flying saucer in a field near Margate?

M. McLoughlin
Lyndhurst Road
Broadstairs

AS A PHOTOGRAPHER with 30 years experience in the advertising industry, I should like to point out that the writer of your letter "Alien Hoax" does not appear to know what he or she is talking about.

I think it fair to say that your photographic printer

has enhanced the sky to give a more dramatic effect, and this is a legitimate printing technique.

It would be very difficult to establish from a screened newspaper print what, if any, retouching had been carried out, and I just wonder if your reader asked if he could be supplied with an original copy of the photograph in question.

Sightings of these vortex circles have occurred since the early 60s and have recently been on the increase in Great Britain.

A book has been written devoted to the mystery, and time lapse cameras have been set up in certain areas in an endeavour to solve this enigma.

Clearly there has been no Adscene hoax and what Mr. Gomez wit-

nessed was one of the most exciting phenomenon of our time.

It is rather curious that the field should have been ploughed up so soon after this event and one can only speculate that the farmer did not want sight-seeing members of the public on his land.

Name and address supplied

Natural weather phenomena to blame for circles in corn

Weaker welcome

PLEASE could you find out why the splendid Welcome To The Isle Of Thanet board on the Thanet Way has been replaced by a pale, small and totally insignificant one which no-one can possibly read!

What a gross extravagance! Surely a good clean-up of the original would have been a much better plan.

C. Farrow
St. Peter's
Broadstairs

YOU DON'T need a visitation from aliens to view a "spiralling vortex of flashing light", nor fake photographs to admire circles of flattened corn.

Your front-page UFO landing story (25 August) can be explained by natu-

rally-occurring weather phenomena, according to the work of Terence Meaden (reported in New Scientist, 2 September, 1989, page 30).

Ten years of research (including eyewitness accounts) has led Meaden

to conclude that the circular marks found in corn fields are the result of spinning columns of air.

Such vortices, when slightly tilted, trace out circles - "just like a child's spinning top."

The abrupt edges of the

circles suggest that the vortices are ionised. This could make them luminous at night.

Hissing sounds are also reported to accompany circle formations.

Why proclaim ALIENS! in a headline, or accuse a newspaper of forging evidence (Letters, 8 September), when there is a credible explanation at hand?

"IONISED VORTEX FOOLS LOCALS!" not catchy enough, eh?

E.H. Kerkin
Gresham Avenue
Westbrook
Margate

Richard Dallaway
Cliftonville
Margate

Storm is the answer

REGARDING the "corn circles" recently reported in Margate, may I bring to your attention a short article in New Scientist.

It includes the description of the witnessed formation in four seconds of a circle of 75-foot radius, in Wiltshire, in 1982.

This was associated with an electrical storm and has been explained by the formation of an almost horizontal vortex containing ionised air. The ionisation is responsible for the incredibly sharp edge of the circle.

It has also been suggest-

ed that such ionisation produces ball lightning, rather than a UFO that was witnessed in Margate.

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