

22 SEP 1989

Orchid smuggler in UFO event

FORMER diplomat for Iran Dr Henry Azadehdel, who earlier this year served a prison sentence for smuggling rare orchids worth thousands of pounds, will be among the top UFO experts visiting Ossett Town Hall tomorrow.

Dr Azadehdel was fined £10,000, and jailed for 12 months at the Old Bailey in June after selling orchids worth £250,000 on the black market.

Eight months of the sentence were suspended and Dr Azadehdel was in prison for three months before being released recently.

A spokesman for the Yorkshire UFO Society who are involved in organising the UFO conference at Ossett tomorrow said: "We have dealt with Dr Azadehdel for a long long time and he is widely acclaimed as a leading authority on UFOs."

"The orchids case has nothing to do with this conference. Dr Azadehdel is a well respected man and he freely admitted the charges brought against him."