

**Mystery object spotted in 'sk'**

A "mystery green and white object in the sky" with a round glowing head and a tail.

Mr S Birdsall, of Reginald Grove, York, claims to have spotted the object on Monday evening while waiting for a bus in York. He said the object just

**'I saw UFO flame above the Minster'**

Mystery Zeppelin

**Police baffled by UFO sighting**

Police were baffled by a reported UFO sighting last night.

Mr John Raper, of 37 Burton Stone Lane, described them as orange in colour and flying at a considerable height. They were tracking a South, South West, in North...

**UFO spotted over Malton**

A person, who wishes to remain anonymous, yesterday reported a sighting of a UFO in a field near his home on the

**Couple in York UFO mystery**

IT STARTED with one flashing light... then there were three... then there were six.

THE headquarters of the Yorkshire Unidentified Flying Objects Society are situated - quite appropriately - high in the sky overlooking Leeds.

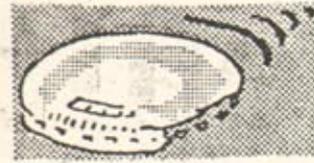
Mark Birdsall, co-founder of YUFOS and tireless researcher into unexplained phenomena, lives on the eleventh floor of one of those massive high-rise blocks of flats so beloved by planners of yesteryear.

It is here that Mark investigates reported sightings of UFOs throughout the country.

During the last few years he has become increasingly aware of the fact that North Yorkshire appears to have a remarkable record for alleged UFO sightings - a record which is out of step with the rest of the country.

The bald facts, collected by YUFOS, are quite revealing. In 1980 there were 34 sightings nationally of which 14 came from North Yorkshire; in 1984, 48 sightings of which 25 came from North Yorkshire; and in 1986, 73 sightings of which 24 came from North Yorkshire.

In the intervening years, the proportion was still remarkably unbalanced.



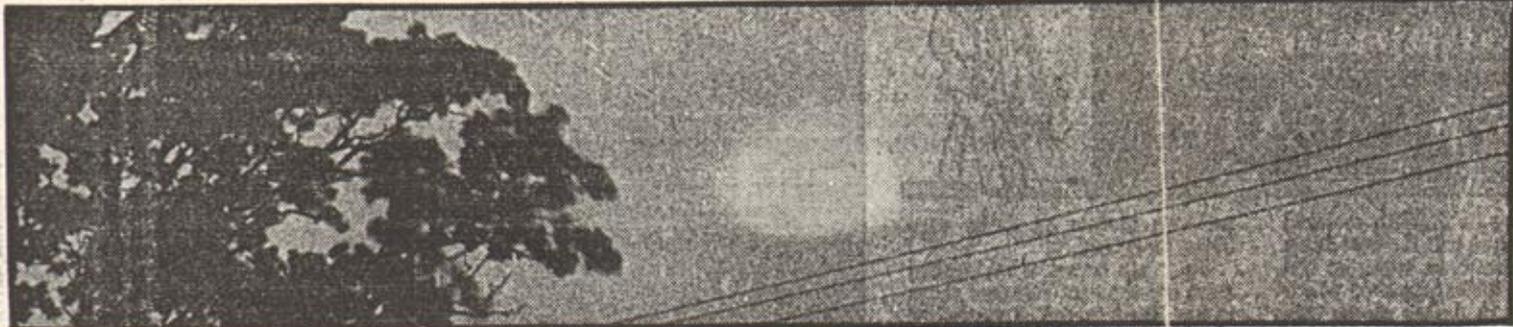
Could this imbalance be accounted for by the fact that YUFOS is based in Leeds and was therefore bound to attract more sightings from North Yorkshire than, say, Cornwall?

Mark Birdsall does not accept this. "We are a nationally-known organisation, one of the best-known in the whole country, and we get sightings from all over England."

"North Yorkshire is one heck of a place for UFOs."

So why should North Yorkshire be such a popular place for our friends from other galaxies?

"It is a big, rural county which is bound to be attractive for obvious reasons. There is less chance of being seen."



# Do aliens love it here in N Yorks?

● Like Americans, visitors from other planets seem to make a bee-line for North Yorkshire...at least according to the Yorkshire UFO Society. Meanwhile a controversial new book claims that there is a world-wide cover-up on UFOs. ROBERT BEAUMONT reports on the latest developments in this intriguing field.

And Mark believes that there are darker reasons.

"I am convinced that there is a lot of military activity going on behind the scenes involving aliens. So it would make sense to take a closer look at North Yorkshire which has Menwith Hill, Fylingdales and other key military installations."

Be that as it may, North Yorkshire does seem to be a fertile UFO sighting ground.

"The police have been very co-operative. They are often out at night, often parked on hill tops and are therefore in the perfect position to observe what goes on. Needless to say, a number of

sightings have been made by the police," he said.

Mark Birdsall is still convinced that the York Minster fire was caused by a UFO. "People may scoff at this theory. But we have a number of statements and drawings from taxi drivers which are remarkably similar. They all saw something very strange indeed on the night of the fire."

"I know the official theory is lightning. But cast your mind back to the night in question. Were the conditions conducive to lightning? I don't think so."

And Mark makes this pertinent point: What on earth have people got to gain by reporting UFOs? They usually end up by being the subject of ridicule and derision.

One such person is 43-year-old Timothy Good, a freelance writer and session musician, whose book Above Top Secret has just been published. It makes fascinating reading.

Above Top Secret alleges that there is an international cover-up on the subject of UFOs and Timothy Good's claims are given added weight by the fact that Lord Hill-Norton, Chief of Defence Staff from 1971 until 1973, has

written a powerful foreword to the book.

Timothy Good claims that:

- The Americans captured a crashed UFO with four dead aliens inside it in New Mexico in 1947.
- Each American President is briefed about a secret intelligence group that investigates UFO sightings and then covers them up.
- Aliens warned Neil Armstrong off the moon in 1969.
- A secret 30-man Ministry of Defence team tracks down UFOs from RAF Rudloe Manor in Wiltshire.



Perhaps the most interesting of these claims is the last. For when Mr Good was taking a closer look at RAF Rudloe Manor he was arrested and questioned in the middle of the night.

The Ministry of Defence denies that RAF Rudloe Manor is a UFO tracking station or receives UFO

sighting reports from the public.

So I rang up RAF Rudloe and asked if I could report a UFO sighting. They were only too happy to take down all the details.

That does not prove that RAF Rudloe is a tracking station. But the alacrity with which a member of staff took down the alleged sighting makes nonsense of the MOD's claim that the station does not receive reports on UFOs.

Sq Ldr Peter Milne of RAF Rudloe Manor said later: "At the end of the day, the Ministry of Defence is only interested in UFOs as far as national security is concerned. If we were given information about UFOs here, there is nothing we could do with it."

So why on earth did they accept my sighting...?

Timothy Good's book has caused a sensation in UFO research circles and if there is a world-wide cover up, as he suggests, then there will be a number of worried faces in those top secret security circles.

Meanwhile it will be fascinating to monitor the number of UFO sightings in North Yorkshire. For, if UFOs really do exist, the county does appear to be a prime target.