

**SOUTHAMPTON
UFO
GROUP**



1990 - 2002

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1990

Steve sets up group for other UFO fans

HAMPSHIRE Police Force employee Steve Gerrard is watching out for people to join him in forming a group to spy for flying saucers.

Derek Eaton reports

"There is no such organisation in the area around Southampton and I believe it is time this was rectified," said the man who operates a computer terminal for the force at Winchester during working hours and walks the beat as a special constable in his spare time.

The group would discuss recent sightings within and just outside the county boundary as well as books, magazines and videos on the controversial subject of unidentified flying objects, said 25-year-old Mr Gerrard, who lives in Southampton.

And he would like people who have had UFO sightings — or even close encounters — to get in touch with him. He would even like to hear from people who only think they have experienced them.

He says colleagues at Hampshire police headquarters know of his interest and he discusses sightings with them. "I am

always talking about the subject with them," he said.

"Some may pull my leg a little but most have an open mind about the subject. Many policemen have recorded sightings. They are trained observers so there must be something in it."

In fact the Echo, whose UFO file of stories began in 1976, is full of accounts which quote the police making sightings — usually of saucer-shaped objects with domes on top.

The Echo comment of February 12, 1976, declared more policemen than other single group had seen them.

Mr Gerrard, from Weston Grove Road, Woolston, said colleague Bob Price from the police motorway breakdown section, had been the first to state an interest in joining

a UFO group.

Mr Gerrard, who has a 200 books and videos on the subject, said: "Sightings seem to have begun in the early 1950s and I have been interested for about 14 years. I have spoken to a few close friends and some people from a group at Portsmouth, plus members of the British UFO Research Association, with a view to launching this group.

"I cannot accept that there could possibly be life on just one planet. I'm convinced that it could exist even on other planets in the solar system — it must evolve to suit its surroundings, however inhospitable."

He has a meeting venue in mind for the group which may also explore the mysterious corn crop circles phenomenon.



NEWS

LOOKING FOR
UFO'S
SEE PAGE 18



WAITING AND WATCHING Steve Gerrard

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**SOUTHAMPTON EVENING
ECHO
5.1.90**

Keep up good work on UFOs

■ RE numerous articles in your newspaper over the past month or so. I can say I keep up the good work. I run a small UFO group in Southampton called SUFOG - Southampton Unidentified Flying Object Group which meets twice a month at my home address.

It seems a shame that the subject of UFOs is taken so much as a big joke not only by the media but the public at large. Surely there is not so naive a belief there is only life on this planet or that in the galaxy. Surely another form of life some 200 years more advanced than our own could have mastered the art of space travel. You only have to look at our history over the past 100 years.

One hundred years ago the car was just appearing and replacing the good old horse and cart. Forty years ago space travel was only just becoming a reality. Now it is building thinking of living in space stations and on the moon and we are exploring the outer limits of space.

The whole idea of U.F.I. and UFOs is not to be scorned. I believe it is only a matter of time before the human race contacts some other form of life from outer space if he hasn't already. If we are to believe the Americans and the retires/air/ash landing of UFOs in America, i.e. Roswell, New Mexico 1947, and the alleged recovery of alien bodies in South Africa in the 80s, when an alleged UFO was shot down and bodies found.

If another form of life has developed on a planet that has such a hostile environment then their appearance would be very different from our own i.e. large almond eyes, small nostrils, no ears etc. (these are some of the described features people have seen on alleged ET Chautau). Also the wearing of space helmets and space suits would be comparable to those of our own astronauts to protect them in space. If anyone is interested in joining our group

please contact me - S. Gerrard SUFOG, 25, Weston Grove Road, Woolston, Southampton.

■ IT'S Mysterious Dismisals U.F.C. Reporters ran the headline on a letter from J.A. Wright of South sea. How true, but we must not allow ourselves to be left open to labels of "cranks" or "eccentric".

Mr. Wright alleges that the Freedom of Information Act is the U.S.A. brought forth admissions of 14 crewmen from the alien craft being held at a security base in Alabama.

Hard as I've searched my files which extend from 1947 I do not find any such admissions. Rumours abound, some with affidavits sworn by ex-armies etc.

There are some dramatic accounts of a similar scenario over South Africa in 1989. The crew being transferred to the States where they were again allegedly "supping" to be seen together. This is another rumour which goes into fact in ufology notwithstanding that such CIA DO exist.

In view of this I find it puzzling to read of 603m research mostly channelled through NASA to begin in 1992, aimed at finding life somewhere among the stars. Ten thousand to one odds of finding life in the Milky Way.

Backing up my research are personal experiences, news items on UFOs have produced two formerly unheard of and unreported Portsmouth sightings.

I estimate that only ten percent of any sightings reach the media or even the UFO experts. One man told me that his sighting in 1965 changed the whole of his life - for the better. I assured him he was like me, one of the thousands - Ernie Sears, Crichton House, Rotary Court, Netley Abbey.

Keep eyes peeled for UFOs

■ CONGRATULATIONS on the splendid and open-minded review of Bob Price's new book on "UFOs over Hampshire and the Isle of Wight" (The News, June 14)!

How sad, though, that the Southampton Echo saw fit only to print an almost entirely sarcastic review that would have gone on the back of the average postage stamp! I have protested strongly. The whole subject of UFOs which are "apparently" (and I use the term with reservations) still "unidentified" by experts and governments shows up a disgraceful set of affairs as such craft seem to use our airspace with almost total disregard to any defences we may have.

That some of them ARE "craft" I have had personal experience of on a number of occasions but, like the book's author, the theory of some form of advanced intelligence from "elsewhere" remains just a theory to date, at least insofar as I am concerned.

Still, you never know! It pays to keep that open mind which your newspaper writers have ... and to keep your eyes peeled. I have seen a UFO report from Hampshire dated as recently as June 8.

Like so many such, it has not reached the front pages of even the more sensational tabloids but, nonetheless, it goes to make up the "mosaic" of the world UFO pattern as The News described it as long ago as 1960 - Ernie Sears, 15, Crichton House, Rotary Court, Netley Abbey.

PORTSMOUTH NEWS
JUNE 1990

Clouded views of mysteries

■ AS someone involved in what is loosely called the "paranormal," I was very interested in Keith Newbery's article on local clairvoyant Sylvia Syms (The News, May 19). I also have the greatest respect for her, having had several friends reporting highly accurate visits to her.

However, I do hope that Sylvia has not gone "over the top" in her confident predictions, two of which interest me particularly being subjects I have studied.

"There is no such thing as the Loch Ness monster" ... has Sylvia not looked at the mass of written and photographic evidence, some by reputable experts such as Sir Peter Scott, or photographs analysed by Royal Air Force "boffins" and those from the Rhine University taken by underwater cameras and backed up by radar?

As to her other "unknown" prediction that "an alien life form will be proved to exist" if growing reports are true, alien life forms (officially called ali-



● SYLVIA SYMS - accurate

entities) are already "under wraps" in the United States, some as recently as June 1989. I hope that Sylvia concludes that U.F.O.s do exist.

I have had experiences involving such things, so there is no doubt in my mind, and I am joined by no less a person than Ralph Noyes, ex-head of Defence Staff (D.S.S.) at the Ministry of Defence, who has been speaking publicly and appearing in print on the subject.

Keep up the good work, News, you often venture into regions where others fear to tread. - Ernie Sears, Crichton House, Rotary Court, Netley Abbey.

PORTSMOUTH NEWS
2.6.1990

PORTSMOUTH NEWS
26.7.1990

Watching for them looking at us . . .

I READ with interest your item in the Daily Echo concerning the UFO sighting over Waltham Chase.

I run the Southampton UFO Group and I must admit this was the first sighting in the area that I had heard of this year.

In the last edition of the newsletter that I edit, I published a recent sighting over Fareham. It was of a triangular object made up of three lights with a central light.

The South of England is not noted for UFO reports and as so far this year I have only been notified of five or six sightings. This may well be due to the fact that people do not know who to contact or are frightened of being ridiculed.

As stated above, I produce a monthly newsletter with a circulation of between 50-60 copies worldwide (America, Sweden and Germany to name a few countries). The group has now been in existence for five years and I have had an interest for about 15 years.

In 1996, there is to be a one day UFO conference to be held in Portsmouth, which I am helping to organise.

Readers may contact me about their sightings or anything else in this letter.

STEVE GERRARD, Southampton
UFO Group, 25 Weston Grove Road,
Woolston, Southampton, Hampshire,
SO19 9EE.

**SOUTHAMPTON
EVENING ECHO
18.10.1994**

**SOUTHAMPTON
EVENING ECHO
23.2.1995**

EARTHLINGS UNITE



► NOW YOU SEE IT: Steve Gerrard

'We are not alone!'

CALLING all earthlings — prepare for an out-of-this world experience at a Hampshire conference.

UFO-spotters worldwide will be converging on a Hampshire school for a meeting organised by Southampton expert Steve Gerrard.

Steve, 32, has become a worldwide celebrity in the closely-knit circle of UFO watchers.

The part-time policeman runs Southampton UFO group, whose soaring membership includes fanatics throughout Europe and America.

International phone calls and letters arrive daily at his Woolston semi, crammed with 7,500 press cutting, 300 books and over 150 videos of flying phenomena.

An extra terrestrial sighting over Southampton Water in 1985 launched Steve into his extra-terrestrial hobby.

"A big ball of orange light appeared over Hythe — it just hung in the sky, and then it moved as though it was going down a flight of stairs," said the father of two.

But most strange sightings have a terrestrial answer explained Steve, a computer terminal operator with Hampshire Police.

"Ninety-six per cent of all sightings can be explained — but it's the four per cent that you can't put an answer to that we're interested in," said the special constable who patrols a footbeat in Netley.

"I think there is a form of life out there that may be trying to make contact with us.

"The government is aware of this, but they're covering it up because of the panic it would cause," said Steve, of Weston Grove Road.

The conference lifts off at Warblington Secondary School, Portsmouth, on April 22.

24 April 96

DEFENCE | Investigations assess threats 'from whatever source'

'UFO office' probing reports of mystery sightings

By RICHARD BETTSWORTH

Defence correspondent

It's an investigation Jim, but not as we know it.

The Ministry of Defence has admitted it has its very own X-files team which deals with reports of UFO sightings - but denied that it carries out any investigation beyond assessing whether there is a defence threat.

The two-man team in the MoD main

building in London goes under the title Secretariat (Air Staff) 2A but is nicknamed 'the UFO office'.

According to the latest edition of *RAF News*, the office receives about 200 to 300 reports of unexplained aerial sightings a year but dealing with them represents only part of its RAF administrative duties.

A statement said that the MoD remained vigilant to any 'potential threat from whatever source'.

It is in this context alone that reports

of unexplained aerial sightings are looked at in order to establish whether what was seen might have defence significance,' it said.

'If no threat is discerned - and in connection with UFO sightings this has been the case in all instances to date - no further attempt is made to investigate or establish exactly what might have been seen.'

The report said the MoD 'remained open-minded' about UFOs and the existence of extra-terrestrial lifeforms.

But it 'knew of no evidence which might substantiate the existence of such phenomena'.

Steve Gerrard, chairman of Southampton UFO Group, said that over the years the MoD had become more open on the subject of UFOs.

'At one point they would not even say that this department existed. But they have become more open.'

'They seem to be more helpful and when you send them letters now you tend to get a fuller reply,' he said.

Lid slowly opening on the UFO mystery

LIKE David Williams (Letters, June 21) I, too, was part of the huge crowd at Nick Pope's book-signing, lecture, and slide show at Southampton's Dillons book store.

While I would agree that the ex-UFO Ministry of Defence "expert" said that there was "no cover up" on the UFO enigma in this country, it must be remembered that he is still bound under the Official Secrets Act, he still works for the MoD, has just been "promoted" to the equivalent rank of major in another job.

Yet he still went on to show us, in his talk, and in his book, *Open Skies, Closed Minds*, that his belief is that an alien technology is breaching our defences with virtual impunity and has been doing so for years, despite the "official" MoD denials.

Since many of us already know that, we took his words as being rather tongue firmly in cheek!

As for David's complaint about the 30-year ban on UFO reports... this is another familiar red herring!

I have been invited up to the MoD's UFO Files department at Rew, as have others, but the files I have been referred to are mainly "lights in the sky" - always problematical.

My query regarding a daylight sighting in the early 60s of a "glowing cigar", that just vanished when two Meteor jets from Thorney Island tried to intercept it over Portsmouth Hill, escaped the 30-year clause because the MoD "did not keep files as far back as that!"

Rest assured, Mr Williams, the lid is slowly but inevitably opening on this particular can of worms... which beats the BSE and baby milk scandals, among others, wholesale! Hence, the tooth and nail fight by the powers-that-be to keep it well under wraps... until now.

At the back of it all, the mystery is political in aspect, since an increasing number of us realise that what it is really all about is the catastrophic

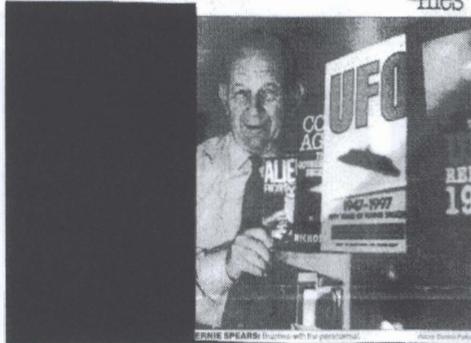
state of the planet we cling to - our children's, and their children's, future.

Yet still we see greed, violence, wars, brother against brother, pollution of the earth, sea, and air... the whole due to continuing ignorance of our true place in the universe.
ERNIE SEARS, Nerley Abbey.

PORTSMOUTH NEWS 24.4.1996

SOUTHAMPTON EVENING ECHO
29.6.1996

'Coming out' over aliens



ERNE SEARS: Business with the paranormal. Photo: Graham Phillips

**SOUTHAMPTON
EVENING
ECHO
27.6.1998**

ERNE Sears is aware that what he's telling you is brain-scrambling stuff, so he repeatedly punctuates his tale with comments like: "Whether you believe me or not doesn't really bother me."

Report by
Jackie McCarrick

But this affable pensioner's account of glowing cigar shapes in the sky, ghostly visitations, healing rays and alien abduction is his way of "coming out of the closet", as he puts it, after a lifetime of other-worldly experiences.

At the age of 74, Ernie is spending hours over the computer in the tiny kitchen of his retirement flat in Netley Abbey, fervently writing a book. On Sunday he was regaling members of the Southampton UFO Group with his encounters of the past 65 years — which started at the age of nine with an

out-of-body experience.

It happened when he was ill in bed and found himself suddenly perched on the ceiling looking down at his body. Feeling exhilarated because he could "fly", he says he took himself downstairs to tell his mother — and found she couldn't hear or see him. Next day he was back in bed, with his fever gone, and his mother dismissed his experience as a dream.

"A couple of weeks later I wanted to prove I could fly so I jumped from the top of the stairs — but of course all I got was a lot of bruises," he said.

Then, when he was 11, Ernie's little sister died. When, after the funeral, he told his mother he had heard his sister's voice in the house, she dismissed it with: "Once you're dead, you're dead."

This pattern of encounter repeated during the years, with Ernie experiencing the spirit of his first wife — who died of TB at the age of 22 — sightings of UFOs over Gosport and Southampton in the

1960s and 70s, poltergeist activity at his Portswood home which ultimately led to the breakdown of his third marriage, and visitations by a giant yellow eye and men with a light that beamed blue/gold rays into him.

Ernie is well aware of how his stories must sound. "I'm a Gemini so I've got a sense of humour, I know it all sounds crazy. But I'm also constantly asking questions and for me it has become important to find out what these things are all about."

Over the years, Ernie has variously sought answers for his spookily eventful life in religion, spiritualism and UFO research groups.

In recent years he's read books on alien abduction and UFOs and has been staggered to find parallel

experiences to ones he has had.

Now, he said: "I've re-evaluated all the experiences of my life in different terms and have decided I cannot ignore it any longer."

What he now thinks is that there is a huge movement afoot to "raise man's consciousness".

"I've become aware that there are millions of people like me around the world," he said. "We have all had experiences that have changed us for the better."

During his foray into spiritualism Ernie discovered he was a natural healer — and now, as an accredited member of the National Federation of Spiritual Healers, has testimonial letters from people he has cured of back problems, arthritis and a range of other physical and emotional problems.

He takes no credit for the healing

vibes that come through him from time to time in the form of a wildly shaking right arm, but puts it down to the raising of his consciousness by whatever it is "out there".

His experience with the men of the blue and gold light rays he sees as an abduction.

He said: "When you have an experience like this you come back with a bigger outlook. You realise that something out there is so big. It's awesome — and what it's doing is raising man's consciousness to a new level."

On the surface, Ernie remains — as he puts it himself — a state pensioner on income support, living in quiet anonymity in a retirement flat.

A pretty effective disguise, in fact, for a man with a message from the universe.

Intriguing UFO tales

I WAS interested to see the subject of UFOs in the Letters page (November 26). In spite of all the "little green men" jibes, or those "Martians", etc, UFOs haven't "gone away".

Your correspondent mentions Bob Price's book "UFOs over Hampshire" and may not know that there is, currently, an updated reprint of it.

As to Joyce Bowles' "close encounter of the fourth kind" (ie: actual alleged contact with UFO occupants), the year of 1977 was indeed a busy one for "ufologists", as was 1978, although many of us didn't realise it until later in our investigations.

1977, in fact, was one of my own "watersheds" in my 50 years of UFO study and experiences, when a "metallic triangle" hovered and then shot away from over my then home in Portswood, Southampton, all in absolute silence, on November 28.

I was extremely fortunate, for my sanity, to find, after much telephoning around the various authorities including the Echo, to find five witnesses who were travelling along the M27 at Bursledon. One of them, Monty Worlock, a wellknown jazz musician still playing, confirmed my sighting, backed up by his fellow travellers, describing the "craft" as hovering and speeding off in a short burst of incredible velocity.

Joining the Southampton UFO Group a few years ago I discovered the general opinion that there is NOTHING the authorities can DO about this phenomenon, so they either issue denials or keep the mouths tightly shut!

The Echo letters only serve to show us more pieces of the jigsaw, in a total picture of cosmic proportions. It is now up to us, for the next move.

ERNIE SEARS, Netley Abbey.

Thursday, January 9, 1997

Anybody out there for UFO course?

THOSE keen to boldly go where no-one has gone before will find they are not alone if they head for Totton College.

Mysterious spaceship sightings, alien abductions, and the riddle of crop circles are all on the curriculum of a new course starting this week.

Psychology lecturer Craig Roberts has launched the ten-week UFO nightschool after the success of a

By Kay Cooper

shorter course last autumn.

He aims for the sessions to be talking shops on space phenomena, and hopes people who have seen or experienced a possible alien visit will come along.

"Most sightings of unidentified flying objects go unreported. People fear ridicule. But that is just in this country and the USA. In Japan they have a UFO museum. In one South American country there is a UFO airport!" said Craig.

"I have never seen a UFO, but I have a completely open mind. Why shouldn't there be life forms on other planets?"

"Most so-called sightings can be explained, but five per cent can't. Across the world, that adds up to a huge number," he said.

Craig will be telling students about famous unexplained UFO incidents from across the globe, and some closer to home.

But Steve Gerrard, chairman of the Southampton UFO group, says the number of local sightings is not above the national average.

"There might seem to be a lot of reports, but there are places in England where unexplained phenomena are

Unusual flying facts

- ◆ The South is home to the nation's UFO sightings capital, the Wiltshire town of Warminster.
- ◆ In 1995, Southampton cabbies Michael McMahon and Mike Swatridge saw a mysterious glowing ball of light speed across the skies over the city docks.
- ◆ One week in 1994 there were three UFO sightings over Southampton.
- ◆ Netley Abbey's Ernie Sears claims to be a veteran of 14 UFO sightings.
- ◆ Last year saw a bumper harvest of crop circles in the South's fields, with 100 shapes appearing overnight.

seen in the sky every week!" he said.

Craig is hoping plenty of people will come along to Totton College and share their experiences.

"I have always found investigating anything to do with the UFO phenom-

enon incredibly interesting. Is there an explanation? Is anybody out there?" he said.

Totton College can be contacted on 01703 874874. The courses run for ten weeks.

Encounters of the third kind

□ By Advertiser reporter

FLASHING lights, cigar-shaped objects and tales of the unexplained enthralled delegates at Southampton's first-ever national conference on extra-terrestrials.

Up to 80 people listened and watched as some of the country's foremost experts spoke and showed video and photographic evidence of UFOs.

Visitors from Essex, Devon and Dorset joined the mainly local audience.

The gathering was organised by the Southampton UFO Group, whose spokesman Ernie Sears, of Netley Abbey, said: "We were quite happy with how it went. Our speakers were really brilliant. We heard some fascinating things and saw some dramatic, almost frightening videos."

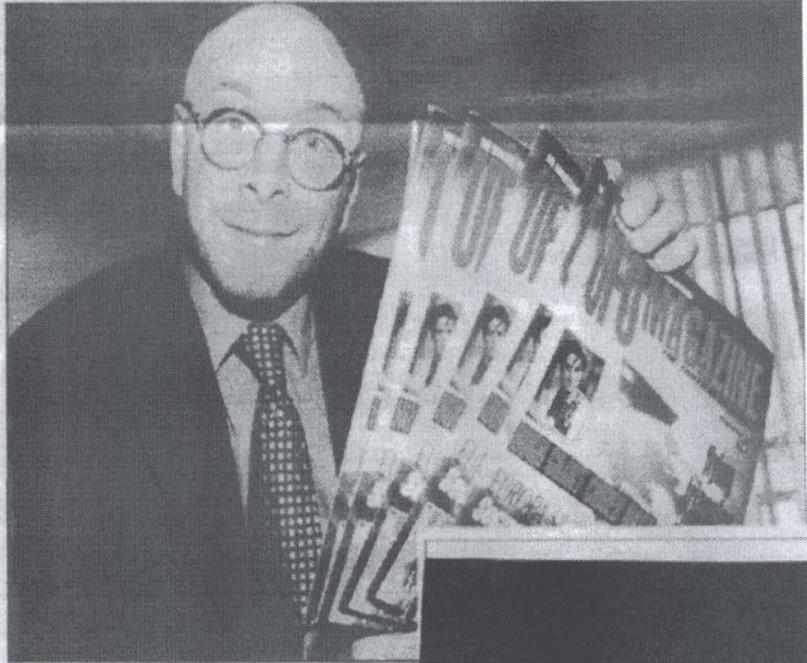
Graham Birdsall, editor of *Quest* magazine, outlined the history of UFOs, covered up by those in authority and looked forward to what might happen if the millennium bug strikes.

He played a taped conversation between a NASA space shuttle and ground control after astronauts saw hundreds of lights of all different sizes.

The space agency wrote off the episode firstly as reflections from the moon, secondly as an ice shower and finally as a computer problem.

Photography and video expert Russel Callaghan showed a video taken recently by guests at a barbecue of a possible UFO sighting in Aylesham, Kent. The film showed a strange formation of lights in the sky that no-one has yet been able to satisfactorily explain.

British UFO Research Association member Lionel Beer and phenomena investigator Malcolm Robinson also spoke to visitors.



STRANGE DAYS: Russel Callaghan picks up some UFO magazines.

SOUTHAMPTON ADVERTISER 4.11.1999



NO CRANKS



Report by Rachel Lamb

THE country's first A-level qualification into the unknown has got underway in Southampton and it hopes to dispel the global myths and reveal that the truth is out there - somewhere.

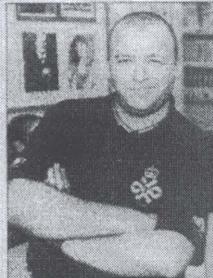
Students at Totnes College rushed to sign up to the unique course hoping to be the first in the country to pursue UFOs and alien life.

But the course leader, Craig Roberts, sees the link is not a lesson for "cranks and fanatics" but a chance to explore the thousands of historical and present-day theories relating to life in outer space.

Thirty students have signed up to the course, which takes its bearings at the Water Lane college.

At a recent talk, students were given the chance to challenge the myths and carry out vital research into an alleged flying saucer and all things alien in our universe.

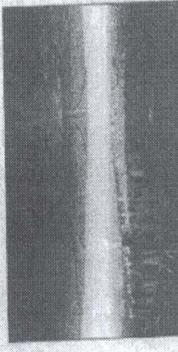
Craig said: "People will initially think the idea of studying aliens and UFOs is mad because there seems to be no definite answers but this course



PLEASE, THIS IS ALL VITAL RESEARCH INTO ALIENS!

Rush to sign up for A-level in UFO-logy

UFO HEROES: Far left, course leader Steve Rider. This A-level, Top, ET, Leah Bundy, the movie Independence Day.



SOUTHAMPTON EVENING ECHO
12.10.1998

is the same as something like psychology where we look at theories and beliefs and draw our own conclusions.

"The course gives students a wonderful opportunity to openly debate their own thoughts and beliefs and

bounce them off each other. We also examine hoaxes and students demonstrate just how easy they are to pull off.

"There are a lot of myths and fallacies out there but the phenomena most certainly does exist and we

majority of the theories do have an element of truth behind them and it is up to the student to un-weave the complex web - some students even claim to have had encounters themselves although they are reluctant to go into great detail."

One of the course's students Carl Rogers, 30, says he has seen many UFOs in the night sky which he cannot explain so joined the course to get some answers.

He said: "I am a regular sky-watcher and have seen many things which can't be attributed to planes or hot air balloons."

"I have a great interest in this field anyway and joined up to delve deeper into the unknown and get some answers about the origins of where we come from."

Student Derek Pavely, 28, is a customer service manager who studies aliens in the evening.

He said: "I have always been interested in the unknown, and UFOs in

particular, so I thought signing up to the course would be an ideal way to get my questions answered."

"I have an open minded philosophy on the subject and believe that UFOs definitely do exist but the questions what exactly are they?"

"Around 98 per cent of sightings can be explained through natural phenomena but there are those which can't be."

"The course is very fulfilling and extremely interesting and I hope to go on to do a degree in the subject if that is possible."

Fellow student Jasdeep Lala is 17 and he got interested in "little grey men" through a passion for sci-fi movies.

He said: "Going on the basis of probability if 10,000 claim to have seen a similar sight the chances are it does exist and the best thing about this course is that no-one can tell you your answers are wrong because nothing is known for sure."



course tutors Steve Rider and Craig Roberts. Right, UFO-logy students Tamsin Parker and Leah Bundy, aged 16, with a 'grey' alien.

SATURDAY 26TH JUNE 1999 SOUTHAMPTON
EVENING ECHO

TELL US THE UFO FACTS - THAT'S ALL WE WANT

The truth is out there, Mr Blair!



Ernie Sears from Netley Abbey believes there is a cover-up going on over the sightings of UFOs. Like television's X-Files, he believes the truth is out there.



ALIEN LIFE: Steve Spielberg's ET

SOUTHAMPTON EVENING
ECHO
26.6.1999

TONY Blair is paranoid. He reneges on pledge after election pledge. Why? Because "spin doctors" tell me that a "pledge" isn't as binding as a promise. It is obvious that government secrecy threatens the bastions of our democracy.

My own experience of cover-ups, secrecy and the government's refusal to take the people into its confidence, stems from March 1960.

There was an incident that month. I saw a UFO. The control tower officials at Portsmouth's Thorney Island airbase denied it, but I saw a glowing cigar shape hovering over the Admiralty surface weapons establishment on top of Portsdown Hill.

It vanished in the blink of an eye as two Gloster Meteor jet fighters were scrambled over Gosport and closed in on it. "You did not see any object or jets," the authorities told me.

I've had years of paranormal experiences, including another sighting of a huge, silent, hovering, triangular object over my house in 1977. It disappeared in the clear evening sky.

Fortunately that sighting was corroborated by four other witnesses some five miles away, although all other official inquiries met with denial.

There was a similar incident in 1978. A small white "blob" tracked by a jet fighter drew a polite "Sorry, old boy, nothing up from here" by a major at Middle Wallop Air Defence base.

Perhaps significantly on that occasion, I heard the switchboard operator say in the background, "We have a code red here, sir."

Much "paranormal" activity followed and I subsequently became a so-called "healer" among other "psychic" phenomena. There followed lecture tours, radio, TV, interviews and magazine articles. I wrote an 80,000-word book over 12 years. This work, entitled *On The Other Hand* (a play on my healing skills!) is currently with a publisher in synopsis form.

If you feel I'm an "airhead", my letters to the Daily Echo dating back to the Seventies, often concern bicycles on pavements, country music and my freestyle dancing, the quality of justice, and much else. Anything that seemed to threaten our freedom.

Naturally, UFO information will be hard to come by. I joined Steve Gerrard's Southampton UFO Group some years ago.

The London-based Witness Support Group, (by UFO witnesses for UFO witnesses), will get sightings - information, via newsletters. As one of my wall tracts, quoting Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's fictitious detective Sherlock Holmes, says: "When you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth."

For too long we have been denied access to the truth by our peers.

Take for instance the Bilderberg Group! Who's that, I hear you ask?

Well, it consists of one hundred or so mummies, who all possess "clout" of some kind, bankers, royalty, defence ministers, philosophers, billionaires, even newspaper directors - that's who! This group meets under tight security in various countries. This year it was Portugal, I believe. No records of their discussions are ever released.

Even Tony Blair claimed originally not to know of its existence but he changed his mind 12 months later! The Bilderberg Group had been called the "Secret World Government". Beware of it, that's what I say. Tony Blair even supports D Notices (orders by government to prevent the release of news) but this is all part of the Bilderberg plot as far as I am concerned.

Just you read the work of best-selling author Nick Redfern. It took him a decade to write that classic book, *A Covert Agenda* (Simon and Schuster, 1998). I can honestly say it is epoch

making. Check it out yourself. See how the Government uses the OSA (Official Secrets Act) to muzzle the newspaper editor!

But central to his theme is the detailed evidence of a 50-year cover-up of how extra-terrestrials have clearly been infiltrating our air-space.

And you think this is dramatic? It isn't for those who are aware of the truth! Thank you, Daily Echo for publishing this article.

I am sure there are many loyal and intelligent readers who know what this is all about.

After all, it is our freedoms that are at risk.

UFO hopefuls scanning the skies

UFO SPOTTERS scanning the night skies over Hampshire have been inundated with reports of uncanny sightings after the Daily Echo highlighted two almost-identical incidents.

Last month Netley pensioner Ernie Sears and Southampton dad Andy Phillips both claimed to have seen a glowing light in the sky at almost exactly the same time, 24 hours apart.

The pair, who reported the mysterious light as slow-moving and vanishing within seconds, were convinced they had witnessed the visit of beings from another world.

Now people from across the area

have contacted the Southampton UFO group to log similar sightings over Hamble and Romsey at the same time.

Grandfather-of-two Ernie, 75, who has been a member of the 25-strong group for the past nine years, said: "All hell has been let loose since the coverage in the Echo. Nearly two handfuls of supporting witnesses to my own sighting and that of Andy Phillips have poured into the group's investigators since then, not only of similar objects over the Hamble to Romsey UFO freeway, but on other occasions as well."

Other sightings have also come to light since Ernie, of Ashburton

House, Rotary Court, appealed for witnesses including a light travelling low over Midambury and a red/orange globe travelling over Netley itself.

A couple, also from Netley, reported seeing a low light illuminating their glass-front door for three minutes before speeding off.

And, after seeing the light for a second time over the Hamble to Calshot coastline, Ernie believes something of universal importance is afoot in the skies over Hampshire.

He said: "Perhaps Hampshire is at the cutting edge of a spiritual/technological revolution."

May 13, 2000 CR: S. Gerrard
EVENING ECHO, Southampton, England

UFO riddles

DURING the evening of May 19 a mysterious globe-shaped light was seen hovering over Southampton Water for some time, moving about occasionally and showing, briefly, a dim red light and a strobe. An aircraft appeared from the Southampton docks area and circled the other object several times before returning and then repeating the manoeuvre. Although a video film shows this, authorities denied all knowledge of the incident, thus causing another mystery!

In another incident on June 20 a brilliant pinkish light hovered over the Ingleside Estate at Netley Abbey in the evening. It also carried two white lights, one of which disintegrated while the other got brighter and the whole apparition sped off towards Woolston.

The odd thing is that the same percipient, firstly with her husband, and secondly with her 13-year-old son, had seen the apparently same phenomenon on Boxing Night 1999, behaving in the same manner. Witnesses are known to me and I have no doubt at all of their descriptions.

If anyone can help please contact Southampton UFO Group on 023 8045 6000 or mobile 077149 60127.
ERNIE SEARS, Netley Abbey.

Call for UFO witnesses

DID you witness a strange phenomenon in the skies above Basingstoke on March 3?

The Southampton UFO Group has been busy investigating a report of an unidentified flying object above Basingstoke on that night - but so far no explanation has been found.

Steve Rider, Southampton UFO Group investigator, explained: "The eyewitness saw 20 to 30 objects arranged in two lines in a V-formation. The objects were 'zig-zagging' and glowing orange/red.

He said the formation moved in an easterly direction and was described as

similar to the 'Lubbock Lights' seen over Texas in America in the 1950s.

"That was a classic case which is named after the place in Texas where a V-formation was seen and photographed. There have been other sightings of V-formations but this is the first I have heard of in that particular shape down here in the south," said Mr Rider.

The group has contacted Gatwick and Heathrow airports, as well as the UFO reporting desk at the Ministry of Defence.

"They all came up with nothing else on that date," added Mr Rider.

A spokesman for Basing-

stoke police told The Gazette he was also unable to shed any light on the strange sighting.

Mr Rider said: "The witness is a pilot so he's used to seeing a lot of different things in the sky. But he said he's never seen anything quite like this before.

He added: "As of this year, this is the only UFO report we've had in Basingstoke. We will try and go up and have a look at the area where he saw the object and see what's around there.

"We will either try and provide an explanation if there is one that looks viable, and if not it will just be logged as unexplained."

BASINGSTOKE GAZETTE, Hampshire, 9
England - July 17, 2000

FREE
 Chinese lunch
 for every reader

PAGE 56

**Are mysterious lights seen over
 Portsmouth Hill evidence of UFOs?**

PAGES 8 and 9

THURSDAY'S AGENDA



Computer wizardry shows how a UFO hovering over Portsmouth Hill might look

If you think this picture is out of this world, read on ...



Are extraterrestrials carrying out reconnaissance flights over a top-secret defence site near Portsmouth? The government denies it, but UFO investigator Ernie Sears believes the truth is out there. **RICHARD HARGREAVES** reports.

THE date was Saturday March 18, 2000.

Pamper were beating Crews to shove off relegation (again). Campaigners were fighting to save Gosport's Hasler hospital (again). TV licence squads were catching dodgers (again).

All fairly routine really. Apart from a UFO darting in the night sky over Portsmouth Hill which the authorities say was never there.

Nor was a giant beam of light hovering over the Solent on May 19 last year for at least 30 minutes - and there was no aircraft circling around to inspect the phenomenon.

Or so the official line goes.

All this is meat and drink to Ernie Sears, former insurance agent and investigator of all things alien over Portsmouth for more than 50 years.

Official denial is part and parcel of the world of unidentified flying objects, especially when these same objects are apparently inspecting some of Portsmouth's most sensitive defence sites.

Portsmouth Hill comes in for most attention, or rather the government's top secret research labs around Fort Southwick.

Our unwelcome visitors have been taking a look for at least 40 years, no doubt attracted by the array of antennae and radar and perhaps testing our defences.

And pensioner Ernie has seen at least one UFO hovering over the site for himself.

One March morning in 1960 he was on his rounds in Gosport when he spotted a shining object motionless over the for-

mer Admiralty weapons research building. Ernie remembers: Two Meteor jets came zooming over Gosport. The object turned and just disappeared.

'It was the heart of the Cold War. Maybe it was a secret Russian aircraft. If they flew things like that then we didn't stand a chance.'

'I wanted an answer and called the airbase at Thorney Island: "You didn't see any Meteors and you didn't see any object..."

The phone went dead. 'My brother-in-law worked at the research centre. As soon as I mentioned what I had seen he turned white. He clammed up,' the pensioner adds.

By then Ernie, who now lives in Netley Abbey, near Hamble, was convinced there was something out there.

In November 1957 he had watched the sky over Portsmouth waiting for the world's second satellite - Sputnik 2 - to fly overhead.

'I did, but not before a bright orange disc had gone before it. It wasn't a satellite.'

Ernie took up UFO investiga-

tions in the aftermath of the second world war when alien sightings were coming thick and fast - partly Cold War hysteria, but partly genuine sightings.

And these sightings are becoming increasingly frequent over Portsmouth, prompting UFO watchers to regularly camp there in the evenings. Are the extra-terrestrials probing our defences?

'The Portsmouth area is exceptional for sightings,' says Ernie.

The history of UFO sightings is that they concentrate on defence bases. If you are looking to invade then you obviously check out the defences first.

And in more than half a century watching the skies, the former RAF man has also watched people's attitudes to UFOs change.

'UFOs are part of the culture now. People no longer believe you are mad if you say you've seen one,' he says.

'People no longer believe we are the only life in the universe. It is too big. There are so many TV shows, reports, and the government keeps on giving us the same old guff.'

There's no threat, says man from the ministry

THE official line on UFOs has changed little since Ernie Sears' curt phone conversation with the RAF at Thorney Island 41 years ago.

They still don't exist. At least the MoD tells you slightly more politely these days.

To date no "unidentified flying object" reported to us has revealed evidence of a potential threat, says junior defence minister Lewis Moonie.

'We believe that rational explanations - aircraft fly' or natural phenomena - could be found for them.'

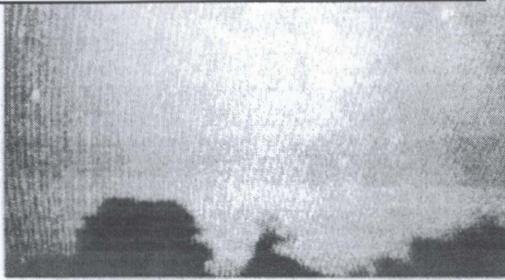
Whilst that receives scores of reports of sightings over its bases, it says it does not investigate them because to do so would stretch it to the limit when its armed forces have got better things to do.

And although the official line is that UFOs don't exist, the MoD doesn't say they CANNOT exist.

'The ministry has no expertise or role in the existence or otherwise of extra-terrestrial lifeforms - about which it remains open minded,' Dr Moonie adds.

But I should add that to date the MoD knows of no evidence to substantiate the existence of these alleged phenomena.

Quest for the truth as files on sightings continue to pile up



Above: A still from video footage which shows a suspected UFO over Southampton Water



Left: A possible UFO photographed over Scotland in 1999

MENTION the word UFO and it conjures up images of flying saucers and little green men.

The images do UFO investigators little justice and belittle serious work to trace our otherworldly visitors. They also bear little resemblance to the truth.

For flying saucer read 'bright light' - almost all sightings over Portsmouth and Portsdown Hill agree. A white light, sometimes flashing in the sky.

Enthusiasts have been lucky enough to capture two of the most recent UFO visits to the Solent on camcorder.

Scratchy, jerky images, but an indication that there is something strange going on in the night sky.

March 18 2000 over Portsmouth and a bright light hovers in the city sky. Must be a helicopter. In an instant it changes direction, goes backwards, then forwards and disappears. 'What aircraft can do that?' say the UFO enthusiasts who provide a running commentary to its movements.



Ernie Sears from Netley scans the sky for UFOs

The sighting over the Solent two months later proves more mysterious - for 20 minutes a white light strobes and blinks in the darkening sky. Around it an aircraft, possibly the police spotter plane, circles keeping an eye on the visitor.

Almost every sighting locally refers to a bright light in the sky, although UFO investigator Ernie Sears admits many can be dismissed as natural phenomenon.

'Most reports turn out to be astronomical. I have investigated 25 or so actual sightings. Most are miscounted,' he adds.

www.portsmouth.co.uk

MONDAY'S AGENDA

For years there have been reports of strange objects in the sky over

Could this be prove we are



Unexplained objects are regularly reported in the skies near Portsdown Hill, making the site legendary for UFO buffs. Now a local enthusiast has

captured mysterious images on video, and believes he has crucial evidence we should all heed. **BARRY RUTTER** reports.



Above and right: Stills from Anthony Woods's video of a bright object in the sky above Portsdown Hill in January this year



Mr Woods claims to have seen a black UFO above The Defence Evaluation and Research base on Portsdown Hill



The large silver object hovered a few hundred feet above Portsdown Hill, and the young boy below stopped his game to gaze at it.

It was 1972, the year of two Apollo missions, and Anthony Woods was just eight. He simply assumed the shape was a Nasa spaceship landing near the end of his garden.

'It was almost like everything went in slow motion,' he says. 'I turned round and looked up and there was this silver object in the sky really low down. It had portholes and a hazy effect round the outside.'

'I stared at it for about a minute and it was so low down - about 200-300 feet up. I couldn't see my friends so I looked round for them and in that time it had gone.'

Anthony lived in Anson Grove, Portchester, and he and his friends regularly played at Portsdown Hill.

'For some reason my two friends ran down to next door's garage but I stayed at the top of the road and that's when I saw it.'

'I can't even remember if I told my friends, I probably did. But at eight I don't remember anyone talking about UFOs.'

'My immediate thought was: "It's one of the space capsules" because at the time they were doing the Apollo missions and I thought one of the pods was landing at Portchester.'

The sighting remained a fond memory until the 1990s. That's when Anthony says he started seeing objects in the sky on a regular basis - objects which he believes we should all take notice of.

Soon, his childhood experience took on much greater significance for him.

Anthony's records of UFO sightings, captured on his video camera - have been eagerly analysed by investigators around the world.

One of the most sensational images in his collection is the large picture on the right, produced by a Belgian-based research group, who used computer techniques to 'reconstruct' a red object he filmed from his back garden in January, 1999.

His videos and stills are carefully documented and stored on computer in the bedroom of his current home in Bedhampton.

He is in regular contact with other enthusiasts in America and the Continent, and says some of his footage is to be shown at UFO conferences around the world.

But he says: 'I'm not an alien buff, I'm not a freaky person, it's just stuff I've seen.'

'Everyone's got their own ideas what they are. I've never seen any beings or anything, I just know it's real. What it stands for, what it's about I don't know, but there's definitely intelligence behind it.'

He says his most prized piece of video film was taken in January this year at Portsdown Hill.

It seems to show three objects shooting across the sky, staying close together and travelling sometimes as a triangle, sometimes in a line and then 'morphing' into one blob before separating again.

The film has been examined by UFOcom, a group set up by a Belgian UFO 'investigator' and former Nato airbase officer after a series of sightings known as the 'Belgian wave' in 1999. It claims to examine evidence scientifically, with an open mind about whether the objects are terrestrial or not.

They told him the pictures were 'extraordinary' and could not be explained away as a natural phenomenon - or a fake.

'There have been similar sightings in America with two objects but this is the first with three,' says Anthony.

But the January sighting is far from his first experience of unidentified flying objects. 'The first one of my adult life was in 1960. I was camping in the New Forest with my girlfriend, now my wife, Samantha.'

'We were outside the tent and we watched these two little dots in the sky, playing together with each other and dancing.'

Within three weeks, he says, he witnessed a black UFO above the Defence Eval-

uation and Research Agency base at Portsdown Hill. In 1994, he says, he saw yet another mysterious object.

'One Saturday night I was at my mother and father's house in Paulsgrove, letting their dog out at about 11.20. This object came straight over the roof really slowly. It was easily the size of a bus and it was an oval-type object. On the end there was a little corner cut out. It was only about 50 feet above me. I watched it disappear towards Portsdown Hill.'

'After that it just seemed to go on and on. I've got loads of sequences on Portsdown Hill.'

'Me and my wife were driving along in 1997 when we saw a massive white funny-looking object over the DERA base. It was a big white object with a red circle - like a rustic red - underneath. It was about 500-1,000 feet above the base. We drove along and turned round but by then it had disappeared.'

'I've got 10-15 different bits of good footage at Portsdown Hill and from my back garden in Bedhampton.'

'I keep my video ready now. It seems to happen when I'm not ready, I can just go out the back door and there they are. I've missed many things like that.'

There have been other sightings in the area, but Anthony believes most people simply aren't looking out for them.

'I know people will snigger. But there's a real phenomenon out there.'

'Over the years I've seen so many different types of objects. I've seen clear, structured objects with windows, I've seen diamond ones and other shapes and colours.'

'I've never seen beings or experienced anything like that. But I would love to see something closer.'

Portsmouth Hill. One enthusiast believes he may have the first evidence of what these UFOs could be

the picture to not alone..?

'IT'S OPEN SEASON FOR CRACKPOTS'

SCIENTISTS remain sceptical about claims of alien visitors. Sir Patrick Moore, Britain's best-known astronomer, who lives in Selsey, does not mince his words.

'It's the open season for crackpots', he says. 'It's all utter rubbish and these people are as mad as hatters.'

Nevertheless, reports of UFOs continue to flood in. UFO incidents in the Portsmouth area include:

March 1960:

Gosport man Ernie Sears described a bright, stationary object hovering over

the research centre at

Portsmouth Hill for up to half an hour.

He said two Meteor jets hurried over

Portsmouth and streaked over Portsmouth Hill.

The object had already gone, 'disappearing

in a blink, leaving the Meteors to circle the

site in vain, before returning to base at

Thorney Island. Mr Sears said he was told by

an RAF duty officer: 'You didn't see any

object and you didn't see any Meteor jets

either.'



Sir Patrick

PORTSMOUTH NEWS 18.6.2001

(PT 3)



Anthony Woods hid a red pulsating object from his back garden on January 9, 1999. Now investigation group UFOcom have produced this possible reconstruction from his footage.

■ **April 1978:** Richard Burkatt from Havant was taking photographs of HMS Vernon in Portsmouth. When he developed them the next day, a three-cornered flying object appeared to be hovering over the base. A thorough check of the negatives showed no obvious defects and none of the other prints were affected. Meanwhile, a Portsmouth couple telephoned *The News* to say they had seen a three-cornered UFO in the same spot at the same time from the window of their 12th-floor flat.

■ **November 1978:** A Portchester family said they had encountered a UFO on Portsdown Hill. Kevin Maling described a huge, silent mushroom-shaped object with a brilliant white light on top and two banks of red and green lights on the bottom. The object moved slowly, but suddenly accelerated and shot across the sky.

■ **September 1981:** There were sightings of strange bands of light in Denmead and Westbourne, near Emsworth. Witnesses Oliver Mann, Anthony Stewart and Ruth Smith each described two bright circles, one on top of the other.

■ **December 1982:** At night on Portsdown Hill, Paul Edwards of Waterlooville reported a perfect circle of bright light, moving very fast at about 1,000ft and making a humming sound. The object was also witnessed independently by Colin New of Bedhampton.

■ **January 1993:** Reported UFO sighting over Portsmouth by builder John Dane of Waterlooville. Mr Dane said: 'It was round and totally black. It definitely was not a plane or a balloon. The UFO came from Portsdown Hill area and flew off towards Chichester.'

■ **June 1993:** Roy Johnson reported a UFO above his house in High Lawn Park, Bedhampton. It was at first a small light in the sky. 'As I watched it, it seemed to get bigger and bigger. Eventually it was just hovering directly above my head. It was saucer-shaped and it was the purest orange and pink colour. Underneath it I could see a hatch. After about 20 seconds it was gone. It zoomed off towards Portsdown Hill.'

■ **August 1995:** A statement given to UFO enthusiasts Bob Schindler and Chris Harrison in West Leigh, Havant, said: 'My wife and I were at Canoe Lake car park in Southsea when we saw an intense emerald green light travelling south out to sea. It was approximately 200 feet above ground level and lit up the ground beneath. As it went out over the water and approached a car ferry heading towards Portsmouth Harbour it blinked out.'

PORTSMOUTH NEWS 18.6.2001
(PT 4)

HAMPSHIRE CHRONICLE 26.10.2001

Decade of searching the skies for UFO truth

The Southampton UFO Group has been watching the sky for 10 years and its members still think the truth is out there.

"Space is like a sandy beach and every grain of sand a planet. It's naive to think that other life couldn't be out there, said Steve Gerrard, who started the group in 1991 having read a book called *The Flying Saucers Have Landed*.

At the tenth anniversary event tomorrow (Saturday), there will be various speakers and footage of UFOs, including Hampshire incidents.

"What looks like four or five orbs of golden lights joined together can be seen

flying over Southampton Water" said Mr Gerrard.

Guest speaker will be renowned author, Timothy Good.

Captain David Sheppard, a British Airways pilot will also be giving an account of his

numerous UFO experiences.

The anniversary celebrations will be at the Pearfree Church Hall, Southampton on October 27th, starting at 10 am.

For more information, visit www.sufog.freeserve.co.uk.

Airport UFO stages a 20-minute light show

A SOUTHAMPTON man is convinced UFOs exist after watching one over Southampton airport.

Dennis Randall, 54, from Chilcomb Road, Harefield, was in his kitchen, when glancing out of the window, he saw what he describes as a bright silver ball over the nearby airport.

Dennis and his friend Gary Pinder, rushed outside to get a better look, and watched the shape for 20 minutes, before it vanished.

He said: "I saw this bright silver light hovering over the airport moving from left to right and back again. I was looking through the kitchen window at about 11.15pm, when Gary and I first saw it, and we watched it for quite a long time before it disappeared.

"It looked just like a big silver ball, and was glowing, though we couldn't hear any noises from it. And then it vanished. The lights on it just went out and it was gone."

He is not the first person to have seen something strange over the region. Ernie Sears, head of the Southampton UFO Group said: "There's certainly been an increase in sightings recently.

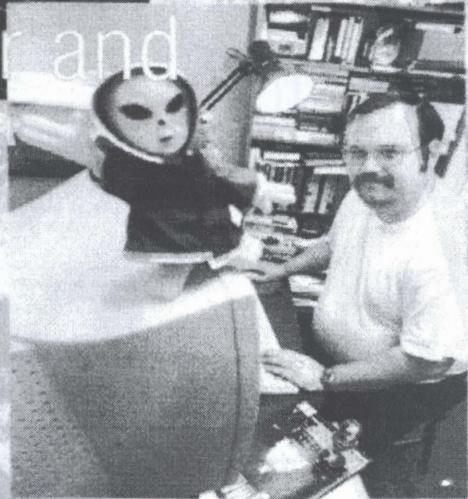
"About a month ago, I and a friend saw two UFOs over Southampton Water, and another member saw something peculiar over North Baddesley the Monday before last."

The duty manager at Southampton Airport said: "We have no record of any UFOs. If we did see something out of the ordinary, the first thing we'd do is check the radar to make sure that what we thought we'd seen, was actually there. If it was, then we'd alert the appropriate authorities immediately."

A case for Mulder and

Scully

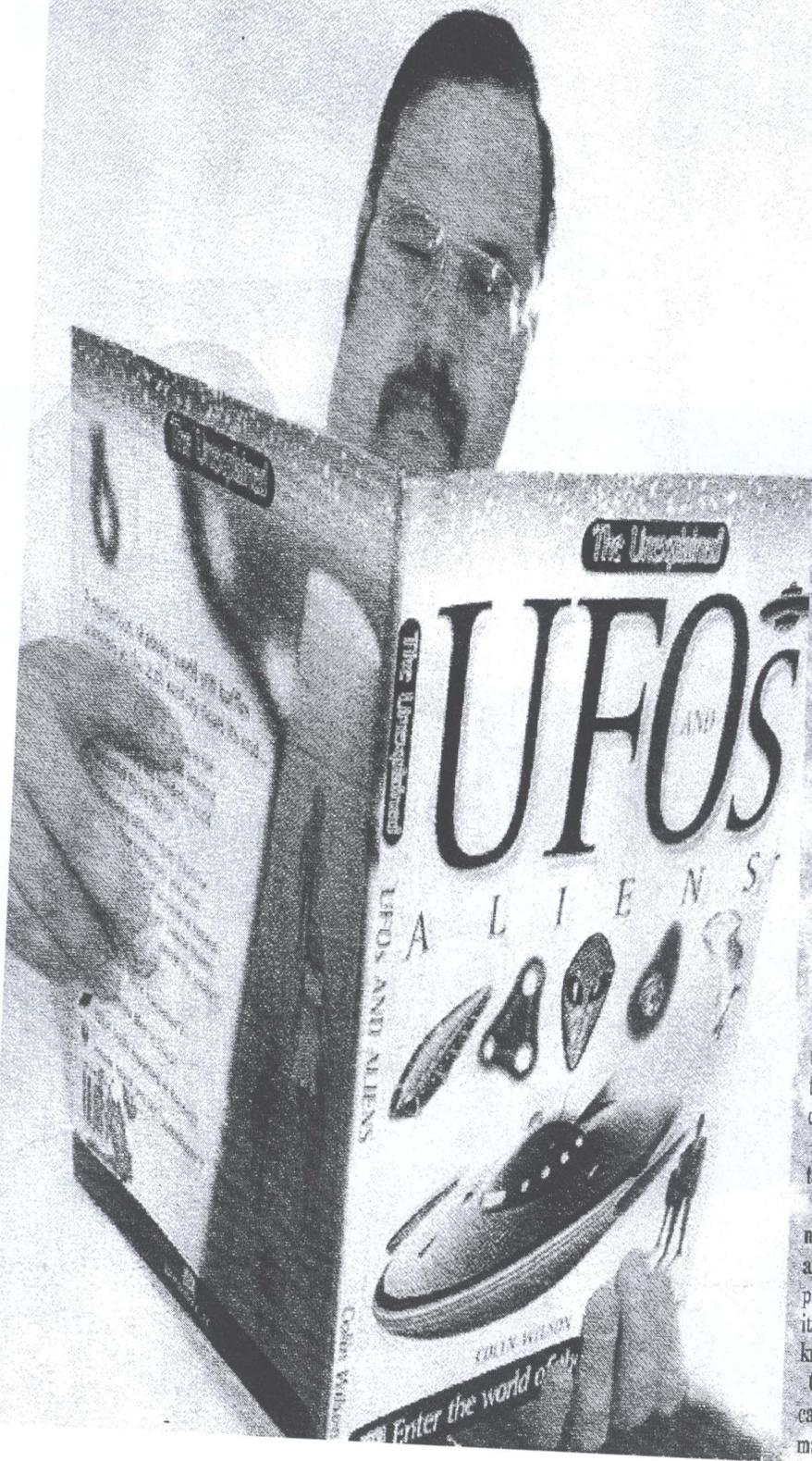
Southampton's UFO group is ten years old and thriving. ALI KEFFORD talks to founder Steve Gerrard about visits to Hampshire from outer space



8 Saturday, July 7, 2001



feature



CHHESEFOOT Head, near Winchester, is a famous beauty spot, a magnet for walkers and those who like watching bunnies lollop along hedgerows.

In the chilly wee small hours, however, you can imagine its allure would be less easy to put your finger on.

But while the majority of people would rather snog a badger than spend a night under the stars (tending off the beginnings of a head cold and getting a crick in their neck) for others, it's their idea of heaven.

And five years ago, the patience of five members of Southampton UFO Group (SUFUG) on Cheesefoot Head was rewarded when a large lozenge-shaped light appeared over their heads, jiggling.

Transfixed, their hearts thumping, the small group watched agog as the object whipped off up into the milky way until it became a mere pin-prick.

Then the dot seemed to be turned off, like a light.

"When you see something, the adrenaline pumps," admits Steve Gerrard, the group's founder.

The whole issue of UFOs is a bit of a hot potato which, for some, involves collapsing back in their chair, hooting with laughter.

Others are strong believers and deadly serious, and it's a hobby to which they devote every minute of their spare time.

And in the middle are the rest of us, those who'd quite like to believe the truth is out there, but would require convincing.

It's easy to see why the concept of there being life far, far away appeals.

What could be better than a community a few million light years away located by turning left just past a certain solar system - even if it's not, perhaps, quite life as we know it.

Over the decades, aliens have captured the imagination of filmmakers.

In the 1950s what waddled across cinema screens certainly tended to be of the little green man variety.

By the 1990s they had attitude, a larger quota of tentacles and oozed sticky goo.

But let's get serious because for those who like spending their spare time on draughty hills without any obvious sanitation it's no laughing matter.

The south of England is a prime place to spy something from outer space.

There have been a spate of sightings - Southampton, Waltham Chase, Swanmore, even Horton Heath.

Discs, blobs, cigar shapes and, indeed, boomerangs (flights flashing and otherwise) have all been witnessed.

There was a bit of a tussle between Melksham and Warminster to become the place every self-respecting UFO wanted to viewed.

It was a skirmish Warminster won effortlessly, with dozens swarming up nearby hills at night, armed with flasks of hot soup to sustain them.

Their quest was to find the 'Thing', an illusive experience which led one observer to comment that "Warminster is to UFOs as Loch Ness is to monsters."

In the midst of all this activity, the subject was thrashed out in the House of Lords.

All this is meticulously recorded in the Daily Echo's vaults, in a fat file of browning cuttings inscribed with the words "Flying Saucers, etc".

Headlines of stories include "UFO visit disrupts farmyard" and "Flying Sancer lands on Southampton Common - No ginger-haired little men."

They are, however, the tip of the alien ice-berg. SUFOG has recorded plenty of sightings for which ringing Hampshire Police, the MOD, Southampton airport and Fawley's refinery provide

no adequate answer.

UFO HQ is located at Steve Gerrard's house in Woolston.

There his dog bumbles from room to room, before going out into the garden to stare at the cat.

It could be any other home, in any other street. But it isn't.

For Steve's is filled with his collection of hundreds of UFO books, and videos, which he admits is outgrowing the semi.

Obsessed with the paranormal since he was a teenager, he set up the Southampton group ten years ago.

Now it has 70 members, who hail from right round the globe.

Steve himself goes out UFO-spotting several times a week, when the inclement British weather is not shrouding the skies with clouds.

He's not particularly happy about the phrase UFO, preferring Unidentified Aerial Phenomena, which translates into the catchy, UAP.

Just after the end of the Second World War, 'flying saucers' were all the rage.

Now, however, 38-year-old Steve says visiting craft have changed shape and are now just as likely to be triangular with a light on each point, and one in the middle.

Steve recently spoke at a national conference in Dorchester on the subject, attended by 250 delegates.

The acclaimed expert has given hundreds of interviews and is soon to appear on the Discovery Channel talking about his all-consuming hobby, begun way back in the 1980s.

"We do sky watches over Southampton - it takes hours upon hours. We have video footage and have seen loads of things in the sky we aren't able to explain. We watch the videos over and over again."

"The

naive to think there's only life on our planet. It's either we find it or it finds us."

"Unless you have physical proof in something solid people won't believe you. They won't believe it unless it's in their back garden."

All, frankly, a bit tricky. You can't help thinking there might be something afoot light years away.

When you speak to people who have witnessed sightings, they're so very sure.

Yet, without the benefit of a hefty piece of evidence, like chunk of space ship, you can't blame us for smelling a rat.

If there is life out there, it's shy. Maybe they just don't realise how easy it would be for them to clinch a walk-on part on The X-files. Convincing them could be a job for Mulder and Skully.

Marchwood army base wanted to our film

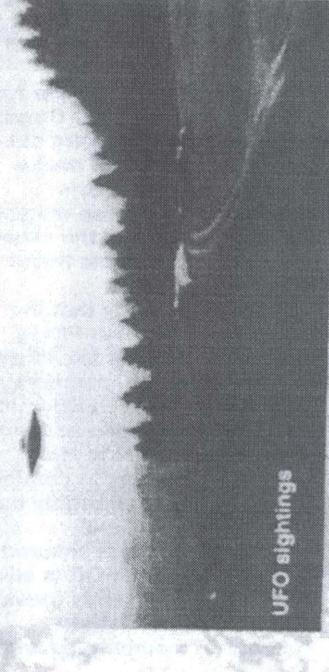
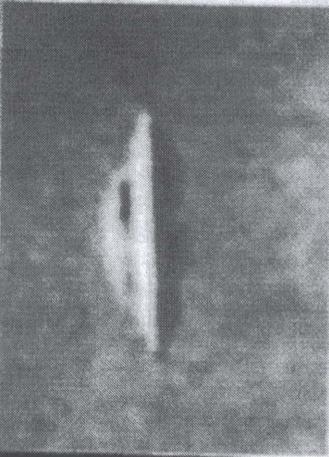
footage but we were a bit dubious so we kept it to ourselves.

"You don't want to be called a cuckoo. You don't want to be called a weirdo. But there's more and more people coming out of the closet and saying 'I've seen something'."

"When there's ten of us at 4am when it's freezing cold - we have a really good camaraderie."

"The X-files is what really brought the subject back into the public eye. I think it opened people's minds."

"There's got to be life out there - but not as we know it. I think we're



UFO sightings

SOAPBOX: Up in the air



OUT THERE SOMEWHERE: Ernie Sears, left, and Andy Phillips, with a UFO inset.

Still on the trail of our UFOs

AS public relations officer for the Southampton UFO Group (SUFOG), I have to point out to those interested that media articles and news items suggesting that those enigmatic UFOs have now left the vicinity of earth – can't blame them! – is vastly exaggerated.

The news is really that the Bristol-based British Flying Saucer Bureau has folded due to its disappearing membership!

Nowadays, says BFSB founder Dennis Plunkett, people tend to sit at home watching and supporting ufology in comfort and not in some draughty hall listening to speakers!

Readers must rest assured that their local SUFOG is alive and well and currently thriving with a small but definite increase in membership and

still hold their meetings the third Thursday in each month at the same Victoria Social Club in Victoria Road, Netley Abbey.

Up-to-date videos made at SUFOG's local and distant skywatches are viewed, together with the wider range of paranormal phenomena which surviving groups including the leading BUFORA have taken on.

A recent Radio Solent broadcast by myself has drawn interest and the big Dorchester conference which SUFOG founder Steve Gerrard spoke at have increased membership to 60-plus. Some of the group members, including myself, are having encounters of the more spooky kind. Nothing new, and part of an increasing world phenomenon. Our local Royal Victoria Country Park has

provided us with examples!

Meridian TV recently filmed SUFOG members at work handling a replay of the May encounter over Southampton Water last year, filmed from Netley, which various authorities denied while the MOD could find no answer to the ten-minute video.

So, my friends, the enigma remains . . . although not quite so unsolvable!

Anyone with an inquiring mind or with unexplainable experiences is very welcome to phone 023 8045 6000 or 023 8044 8194 for fuller details. SUFOG, we have found, is the only working UFO group getting to grips with the theory and the actual "out there" reality along the south coast.

ERNIE SEARS, Netley Abbey.

Friday 18th January 2002

No: 7449

FARNBOROUGH NEWS

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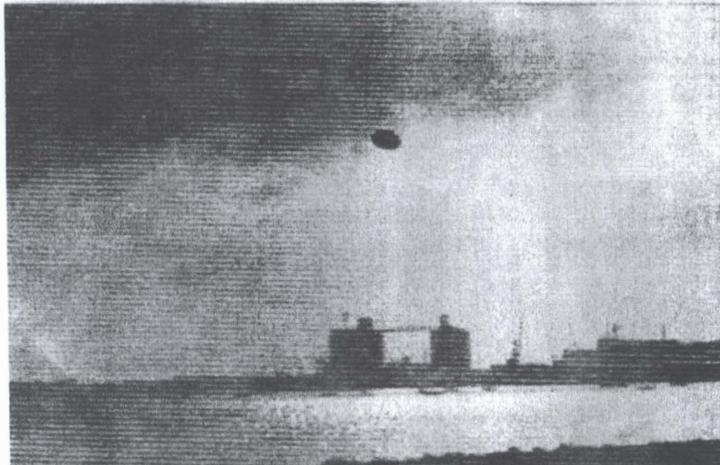
Features

Lid lifted on MoD's off-
cial UFO working party
— Farnborough sightings
of 1980s revealed under
50-year document rule 6

One of many UFO sightings



X-Files has nothing on these events...



Close encounters in the skies — a number of sightings have been recorded in and around the area

AFTER news broke of the investigation into the sightings at Farnborough, we delved into our archives and found an X-File of our own:

November 11, 1969
Surrey Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena announces it has investigated 171 unidentified flying object reports since its formation in 1967.

SIGAP claims more than a quarter of them remain unexplained.

The group's chairman, Omar Fowler, said that SIGAP treated all sightings impartially and adopted a scientific attitude in its investigations.

He said: "We cannot say from the evidence we have examined whether or not the genuine UFOs were from another world. But our research does show that the whole subject is worthy of international scientific investigation."

February 5, 1971
Fifteen ambulances, two fire engines and five police cars rush to Farnham's Folly Hill after reports of a crashed aircraft — but no wreckage was ever found.

Art Student James Rawlence, 21, made the emergency call. "I saw an orange light in the sky. I thought it was sparking the electricity pylons. It was lighting up the clouds."

"It went down over the horizon very fast. Five minutes later there was a flash and a slight bang."

But after checking with the RAE, the Army, RAF Odiham and Blackbushe Airport it was confirmed there were no aircraft in the area at 7.10pm on that evening.

April 4, 1978
Doris Luke, of Park Row, Farnham, has a close encounter with a flying saucer. She said at the time of the sighting: "It was just like a spinning top, dull black on the bottom and brilliant silver like moonlight, on the top. It came at an angle from the north and seemed to float at a terrific speed."

April 11, 1978
Eight people reported sightings of an unidentified flying object in the skies above Farnborough and Ash.

Peter Inwood, a former wartime Royal Observer Corps



member, alerted police to an electric blue UFO that changed rapidly through red, white, green, orange and gold.

Pc Alan Cragg said the object was not an aircraft and watched it for 25 minutes before it moved off.

October 14, 1983
Pensioner Alfred Burtoo, of Aldershot, claims he was taken on board a UFO while on a fishing trip at the Basingstoke Canal.

Mr Burtoo said the flying saucer settled on the bank and two forms came towards him. They were dressed in pale green suits, were about 4ft tall and had dark visors covering faces.

One of the little green men spoke to Mr Burtoo in "a kind

of sing-song voice, with an accent something between Russian and Chinese."

He later said: "They asked me how old I was and I said 78 next birthday."

"Then they said I could go because I was too old and infirm for their purpose."

July 27, 1984
A SPATE of mysterious, unexplained noises are heard by several people in Aldershot late at night.

The sounds seemed to cut through the atmosphere, filling the air with a loud humming.

Aldershot police said they were not aware of any problem of unexplained night-time noises of the type described.

An Army spokesman said the military had received many

inquiries but could not offer any explanation about the sounds.

January 12, 1988
Sixteen-year-old Andrew Findlay joined the ranks of people who claim to have had a close encounter after seeing a UFO over Bagshot.

Andrew said: "There was a gap in the clouds and out of it came a flying saucer shaped thing. It was bright white with green lights in the middle of it."

November 1, 1994
A former policeman and his wife report seeing a mystery aircraft flying silently over Farnborough.

Mrs Box, of Austen Road, Farnborough, said: "It was silent, had no lights and just moved along in the sky."

Let your imagination take flight in the world of UFOs

BRITAIN'S original Men in Black were light years away, it seems, from Mulder and Scully of X-Files fame.

An investigation team, working under the comical title of the Flying Saucer Working Party, was set up from Ministry of Defence offices following a spate of UFO sightings in post-war Britain.

Earlier this month the lid was lifted on the group when the Public Record Office released documents under its 50-year rule. DSI/TTC Report No 7 Unidentified Flying Objects revealed that one of the group's most curious assignments was to look into a sighting in the skies over Farnborough.

In 1953 an experienced test pilot reported a low-level, fast flying aircraft over the town and the men from the ministry came out to investigate.

RAF Flight Lieutenant Hubbard claimed he had seen a flat disc, light pearl in colour, about 30ft in diameter, flying

low at speeds of 800 to 1,000mph over Farnborough.

Two weeks later Lt H Hubbard came forward again to say he had seen another disc-shaped object low in the sky in the direction of Farnham and this time it had been seen by five other senior RAF officers.

All six were interrogated by the MoD team and banned from discussing their experience in public.

When the team produced their report on the Farnborough UFOs they concluded the pilot's first sighting was an optical illusion because — they reasoned — the object could not have flown so low and fast without other people spotting it.

The testimony of the five officers was undermined by the MoD saying they had already been influenced by Hubbards original report. The working party concluded it was probably a normal aircraft that seemed unusual because it was seen manoeuvring in the distance.

The revelation of the existence of the working party has caused a stir in the world of UFO enthusiasts. It has added to the conspiracy theories and demonstrated just how seriously the government took the spate of flying saucer sightings on both sides of the Atlantic after the war.

But UFO experts said news of the Farnborough flying saucer was no surprise, because Hampshire alone is still subject to up to 30 unexplained sightings every year.

The Southampton UFO Group, which covers the whole of Hampshire, has been collating information from reported sightings for more than ten years.

Its founder and chairman Steve Gerrard said: "We normally receive between 20 and 30 sighting reports a year. The activity is not as much as in

the Yorkshire area but that could be because there's not as many groups collating information in the south as in other areas. There's a lack of co-ordination which leads to missed information."

He described the types of sighting reports the group receive.

"There can be a range of reports from lights in the sky to physical craft, to people being taken aboard craft as in the case at the Bostingslake Canal and Alfred Butroo in 1983."

Mr Gerrard went on to explain the way SUFGG investigated sightings.

"Wherever the sighting is, we go. We contact a lot of people who may be able to prove or invalidate a report — military police search and rescue teams. We make appeals through the local newspaper for other witnesses. A good one to use is

star-charts — to see if there is anything happening that might explain sightings. We follow every angle we can."

Grabam Birdsall, editor of UFO Magazine, was critical of the official investigation into the Farnborough sightings in the Fifties.

He said: "Essentially, they undermined the officers at Farnborough. They are trained observers and they would not risk ridicule by saying they had seen something like this if they hadn't."

"They undermine the report of Hubbard saying that other people should have seen the craft too."

"But when five other officers make statements on the second sighting they say they were influenced by Hubbard's original report."

"How many witnesses did they want before taking it seriously?"

Mr Birdsall added: "An important point to make is that,

at that time, we hadn't been to the moon yet. Space travel was still thought of as impossible — and if we couldn't do it, how could anything else?"

"The people in Farnborough must have seen something so unusual that they risked ridicule, possibly their future career even. It was very brave and well done to them for coming forward."

Mr Gerrard believes the officers must have seen something unusual.

He said: "People like pilots and police officers are trained to observe so they knew what they were looking at."

"As investigators there is a lot more credence given to their reports precisely because they are trained."

The problem with sightings is that they leave nothing behind but the memory of the witness and perhaps a few tongue-in-cheek newspaper reports.

Until a physical item



Graham Birdsall, editor of UFO Magazine

provides tangible evidence that even the most ardent cynic can't argue with. alternative explanations will always be put forward.

In this area, with its military links, it has been easy to dismiss any peculiar sightings as connected with the Army, RAF or Royal Air Establishment, especially amid the paranoia of the early Cold War.

However, by looking into the *Neus* archives, it becomes clear that many sightings over many years are still awaiting an explanation.

More information on UFOs can be found on the Southampton UFO Group website at www.sufog.freemove.co.uk and *UFO Magazine's* website at www.ufomag.co.uk.

The real X-files

50-year-old documents shed light on probe by Admiralty

by Richard Hargreaves
Defence correspondent

BOFFINS spent the 1950s investigating UFO sightings over Portsmouth Hill for Churchill.

Secret documents show the government was alarmed by the appearance of flying saucers - and called on the top brains in the forces to investigate.

The Admiralty research centre on top of Portsmouth Hill was one of the country's chief sites for sightings of saucers, bright lights and other strange phenomena during the '50s and '60s.

The MoD secretly set up a team - the Directorate of Scientific Intelligence, which had the ear of Churchill - to investigate the explosion of sightings which ushered in the 1950s.

The investigation is revealed as the files are released for public inspection after 50 years under wraps.

The experts dismissed reports of UFOs, saying eyewitnesses were hoaxes, mad, or tricked by light.

Local UFO watcher Ernest Sears, whose interest in flying saucers was prompted by a sighting over Portsmouth Hill 40 years ago, says it's no surprise Whitehall was worried about extra-terrestrial beings on

NOTHING OUT THERE - OFFICIAL

THE Directorate for Scientific Intelligence was formed in October 1950.

It picked the best technical experts of the navy, army and air force and met in a former hotel near Trafalgar Square.

The directorate spent eight months sifting through reports from across the land, including one by a pilot at RAF Tangmere near Chichester whose jet fighter was overtaken by a saucer. The experts presented their findings in a six-page report in June 1951, then stamped the file secret and shuffled it away in government archives.

Even prime minister Winston Churchill asked



Portsmouth UFO watcher Ernest Sears

'What does all this stuff about flying saucers amount to?' only to be told 'Nothing' as the forces closed ranks and ruled out the possibility of UFOs.

'The government tried to play down any news about UFOs,' the 77-year-old said. 'But privately it was worried that these things could confuse their defences, get mixed up with a Russian attack, and prompt a false war,' he added.

Portsmouth Hill was, and remains, a hotbed for UFO activity. It's no surprise there were people looking into flying objects.

'The good thing is that the MoD has been slowly opening the doors over the years. People have unearthed documents about all sorts of projects over the years, from jets chasing UFOs.'

The intelligence directorate was very quickly wound down by Whitehall, according to official papers released after 50 years at the Public Record Office.

The experts decided the scope of studying UFOs was simply too great - and fruitless - requiring a nationwide team of skywatchers, whose eyewitness reports would be questionable at any rate.

The directorate closed the book on the affair in 1961 'as a singularly profitless enterprise' and said no more investigations should be carried out 'unless and until some material evidence becomes available'.

A UFO investigator's picture claiming to show a UFO over Scotland in 1999



EXTRA TERRESTRIAL: A classic UFO picture.

The place to spot UFOs

READERS who watched the recent UFO documentaries on BBC's *Top Gear* might like to know, in view of queries already in hand, that the first film had Southampton UFO Group members at Cheselton Road, which is labelled as Skywatch.

We were actually filmed on one of our regular skywatching sites, but also at local areas as well as further afield - for example Duff's corner, west of Avebury in Wiltshire.

We have seen and filmed craft at these spots on more than one occasion.

The group's membership remains in the six after ten years, but anyone interested in joining or attending monthly meetings should contact group leader and bi-monthly magazine editor Steve on 01703 3154 or myself on 01703 3155.

STEVE BROWN,
Mike Abbey

Steve Gerrard : SUFOG Chairman.
Steve Rider : SUFOG Secretary.
Ernie Sears : Public Relations Officer.

1990.

5.1.90 : Southampton Evening Echo newspaper : Steve Gerrard.

9.1.90 : Southampton Evening Echo newspaper : Steve Gerrard.

00.6.90 : Portsmouth News newspaper : Ernie Sears.

2.6.90 : Portsmouth News newspaper : Ernie Sears.

19.7.90 : People Power (Meridian Television) : Ernie Sears.

26.7.90 : Portsmouth News newspaper : Steve Gerrard.

1992.

21.10.92 : Radio Solent interview : Steve Gerrard and Ernie Sears.

1993.

23.3.93 : SUFOG Lecture : Speaker Busty Taylor (Crop Circles)

14/15.8.93 : Sheffield UFO Conference : Attended by Steve Gerrard.

24.10.93 : Southern Paranormal Group Meeting Talk : Steve Gerrard

26.10.93 : Eastleigh Round Table Talk : Steve Gerrard

24.11.93 : Southern Paranormal Group Meeting Talk : Ernie Sears

1994.

17.2.94 : Radio Solent interview : Steve Gerrard

28.2.94 : Radio Solent interview : Steve Gerrard.

25.8.94 : Fordingbridge Library (Talk to Children) :
Steve Gerrard & Ernie Sears.

1.9.94 : Bournemouth Echo : Steve Gerrard and Ernie Sears

18.10.94 : Southampton Evening Echo newspaper : Steve Gerrard. (Letter).

23.11.94 : Lecture : Ernie Sears.

1995.

23.2.95 : Southampton Evening Echo newspaper : Steve Gerrard.

23.2.95 : Lecture : Oakland Community School, Southampton. Steve Gerrard

26.2.95 : SPI lecture. Steve Gerrard.

2.3.95 : Radio Solent Interview : Steve Gerrard.

19.3.95 : Lecture : Amateur Radio Club, Dorset. Steve Gerrard

27.3.95 : SUFOG and the visit of the People to People Delegation from America led by
Dr. Leo Sprinkle.

20.4.95 : Radio Solent interview (Ref 22.4.95 event) : Steve Gerrard.

22.4.95 : SUFOG / SPI Portsmouth. UFO Conference.

22.4.95 : Radio Solent interview : Steve Gerrard.

24.4.95 : Portsmouth News : Steve Gerrard.

26.5.95 : Lecture : Axminster Light Center (Devon) : Ernie Sears.

24.6.95 : Southampton Evening Echo : Steve Gerrard.

18.10.95 : Radio Solent interview : Steve Gerrard.

18.11.95 : Bournemouth Conference compared by : Steve Gerrard.

00.11.95 : SUFOG UFO Footage : Cheesefoot Head

1996.

00.00.96 : Steve Rider (SUFOG Secretary) Teacher on Totton Collage UFO Course.

00.00.96 : Steve Gerrard Appointed Moderator for Totton UFO Course for 5 Years.

22.1.96 : Radio Solent interview : Steve Gerrard.

3.3.96 : Lecture : SPI Group, Portsmouth. Steve Gerrard

16.3.96 : Cricklade Theatre, Andover (Bob Dean) attended by : Steve Gerrard

1.4.96 : Bournemouth lecture : Steve Gerrard and Ernie Sears.

4.4.96 : Portsmouth News newspaper : Steve Gerrard.

20.4.96 : SPI Conference Portsmouth (SUFOG Table) : Steve Gerrard & Ernie Sears.

24.4.96 : Portsmouth News newspaper : Steve Gerrard.

10.6.96 : Nick Pope at Dillons Book Shop, Southampton. Att by : Bill Smith.

29.6.96 : Southampton Evening Echo newspaper : Ernie Sears. (Letter)

29.9.96 : Contact International Conference (Group Excursion)

14.11.96 : Lecture : Students Union, Salisbury. Steve Gerrard & Ernie Sears

4.12.96 : Southampton Evening Echo newspaper : Ernie Sears (Letter).

1997.

00.00.97 : SUFOG UFO Footage : Portsdown Hill

9.1.97 : Southampton Evening Echo newspaper : Steve Gerrard.

11.3.97 : Lecture : Totton Collage UFO Course. Steve Gerrard and Ernie Sears

2.4.97 : Radio Solent interview : Steve Gerrard.

6.4.97 : Dorchester Conference : Steve Gerrard and Bill Smith

25.4.97 : Lecture : Everton Ramblers Group. Steve Gerrard

7.5.97 : Southampton Hospital Radio : Steve Gerrard

13.6.97 : Cricklade Theatre Andover (Derrel Sims) attended by : Steve Gerrard

29.6.97 : SUFOG Lecture : Speaker : Roy Lake. A layman's Guide to UFOlogy.

5.7.97 : Southend UFO Group Conference Lecture : Steve Gerrard.

4.8.97 : Radio Solent interview : Steve Gerrard.

5.9.97 : Radio Solent interview : Steve Gerrard.

5.9.97 : Radio Solent interview : Steve Rider.

16.9.97 : Lecture : National Woman's Register. Steve Gerrard and Ernie Sears.

26.10.97 : Contact International Conference. (Group Excursion)

2.11.97 : SUFOG Lecture : Speaker : Paul Vigay : Crop Circles.

9.12.97 : Cable Television : The Why Files : Steve Gerrard and Ernie Sears.

1998.

- 26.1.98 : Radio Solent interview : Steve Gerrard.
- 31.1.98 : Radio Solent interview : Steve Gerrard.
- 5.2.98 : Espresso (Ch 5 Television) : Ernie Sears
- 8.3.98 : SUFOG Lecture : Speaker : Matthew Williams : Secret Underground Bases.
- 19.4.98 : Dorchester Conference attended by : Steve Gerrard
- 27.6.98 : Bitterne Park School (Southampton) Fate. Steve Rider
- 27.6.98 : Southampton Evening Echo newspaper : Ernie Sears.
- 21.7.98 : Radio Solent interview : Steve Rider.
- 23.7.98 : Meridian Television : Members Only : Steve Gerrard.
- 24.8.98 : Lecture : Ringwood Library (Children). Steve Gerrard and Ernie Sears
- 8.9.98 : The Big Breakfast Television : Steve Rider.
- 17.9.98 : Isle of Wight WI Lecture : Steve Gerrard
- 3-4.10.98 : Lecture : UFOKENT Conference. Steve Gerrard
- 6.10.98 : West End Ladies Group : Steve Gerrard.
- 8.10.98 : Woolston Family Circle lecture : Ernie Sears.
- 12.10.98 : Southampton Evening Echo newspaper : Steve Rider.
- 17.10.98 : SUFOG UFO Footage : Portsdown Hill.
- 18.10.98 : SUFOG UFO Footage : Portsdown Hill.
- 8.11.98 : SUFOG Lecture : Speaker : Malcolm Robinson : UFO Sightings in Scotland.

1999.

- 00.00.99 : Young Hambledon Farmers lecture : Steve Rider
- 9.1.99 : Southampton Advertiser : Ernie Sears.
- 14.1.99 : Southampton Advertiser newspaper : Ernie Sears (Letter)
- 17.2.99 : Waterstone Book Shop Timothy Good interview : Bill Smith.
- 28.3.99 : SUFOG Group lecture : Busty Taylor.
- 27.4.99 : West End Ladies Group talk : Steve Gerrard.
- 7.5.99 : 3 Minutes Television : Steve Rider, Steve Gerrard and Ernie Sears.
- 21.5.99 : Lecture : 14th Itchen (Southampton) Scouts. Steve Gerrard
- 23.5.99 : SUFOG Group lecture : Speaker : Ernie Sears.
- 26.6.99 : Southampton Evening Echo newspaper : Ernie Sears.
- 31.7 – 1.8.99 : SUFOG Avebury Sky Watch.
- 25.8.99 : Southampton Evening Echo newspaper : Ernie Sears.
- 23.10.99 : Southampton Evening Echo : Ernie Sears.
- 24.10.99 : SUFOG 1 Day Conference in Southampton.
- 4.11.99 : Southampton Advertiser newspaper : Ernie Sears.
- 17.11.99 : Southampton Guildhall lecture Albert Budden : Attn by Ernie Sears.
- 28.11.99 : Lecture : Lionel Beer's TEMS Group. Steve Gerrard

2000.

- 18.3.00 : SUFOG Skywatch Portsdown Hill UFO Footage.
- 9.4.00 : Dorchester Conference Lecture : Steve Gerrard.
- 24.4.00 : Southampton Evening Echo newspaper : Ernie Sears.
- 27.4.00 : South City FM Radio interview : Ernie Sears.
- 13.5.00 : SUFOG UFO Footage : Netley Abbey.
- 13.5.00 : Southampton Evening Echo newspaper : Ernie Sears.
- 25.5.00 : Wave 105 Radio interview : Steve Gerrard.
- 24/25.6.00 : SUFOG Avebury Sky watch.
- 3.7.00 : Southampton Evening Echo newspaper : Ernie Sears. (Letter)
- 15.7.00 : Psychic News Magazine : Ernie Sears.
- 17.7.00 : Basingstoke Gazette newspaper : Steve Rider.
- 15/17.9.00 : Quest International Conference : Steve Rider and Steve Gerrard.
- 21.10.00 : SUFOG Open Day : Speaker : Chris Martin : UFO's over London.
- 25.10.00 : Tim Good at Waterstones Book Shop talk Att by :
Steve Gerrard, Steve Rider and Bill Smith.
- 6.11.00 : BUFORA London Lecture : Ernie Sears.
- 29.12.00 : Portsmouth News newspaper : Ernie Sears.

2001.

- 8.2.01 : Portsmouth News newspaper : Ernie Sears.
- 12.3.01 : Filming for Discovery television : Hooked on Hobbies.
Steve Gerrard, Ernie Sears and Steve Rider.
- 6.4.01 : Meridian Television : Dorchester Conference : Steve Gerrard & Ernie Sears.
- 8.4.01 : Dorchester Conference : Lecture by Steve Gerrard.
- 17.4.01 : Radio Solent interview : Ernie Sears.
- 5.5.01 : SUFOG UFO Footage : Netley Abbey.
- 15.5.01 : Southampton Evening Echo newspaper : Ernie Sears (Letter)
- 14.6.01 : Southampton Astronomical Society lecture. Steve Gerrard and Steve Rider
- 18.6.01 : Portsmouth News newspaper : Ernie Sears.
- 6.7.01 : Radio Solent interview : Steve Gerrard
- 7.7.01 : Southampton Echo Weekend Magazine newspaper : Steve Gerrard.
- 13.7.01 : Lecture : Netley Abbey Towns Woman's Guild : Ernie Sears.
- 9.9.01 : Southampton Sunday Independent newspaper : Ernie Sears.
- 21.9.01 : Quest International Conference. Steve Gerrard and Steve Rider.
(Short presentation by Steve Gerrard)
- 1.10.01 : Lecture : BUFORA. Steve Gerrard and Steve Rider.
- 20.10.01 : Southampton Evening Echo.
- 26.10.01 : Hampshire Chronicle newspaper : Steve Gerrard.
- 27.10.01 : SUFOG 10th Birthday 1 day mini Conference.
- 00.11.01 : November/December Edition UFO Magazine : Steve Gerrard.
- 19.11.01 : Lecture : Norwich UFO Group : Steve Gerrard.
- 00.12.01 : SUFOG Feature in German Magazine : DEGUFORUM. Steve Gerrard

2002.

- 4.1.02 : Portsmouth News newspaper : Ernie Sears.
- 11.1.02 : Meridian Television interview : Steve Gerrard and Ernie Sears.
- 18.1.02 : Farnborough News newspaper : Steve Gerrard.
- 10.3.02 : Meridian TV : Ernie Sears and Steve Gerrard.
- 16.3.02 : London Talk (SPI England) : Steve Gerrard.
- 19.3.02 : The Holistic Experience Group, Fareham lecture (UFO's) :
Steve Rider,
- 7.4.02 : Dorchester Conference : Steve Gerrard.
- 00.6.02 : UFO Magazine : Letter Ernie Sears.
- 14.6.02 : Filming At Devil's Punch Bowl for Southern Ways (BBC TV).
Steve Gerrard, Steve Rider, Bill and Jean Smith, Ernie Sears, Davina Reynolds
Andy Philips
- 19.6.02 : Southern Ways UFO Week : SUFOG.
- 23.6.02 : Radio Solent : Steve Gerrard.
- 23.6.02 : Radio Solent : Steve Rider.
- 1.7.02 : Southampton Evening Echo : Ernie Sears (Letter)
- 10.7.02 : WI HQ lecture in Winchester : Steve Gerrard and Steve Rider.
- 11.7.02 : Radio Solent : Curious Questions Answered : Steve Gerrard.
- 12.7.02 : Janus Conference : London : Steve Gerrard, Steve Rider.
- 18.7.02 : WI Portsmouth Lecture : Steve Gerrard and Steve Rider.
- 3-4.8.02 : SUFOG Avebury Sky Watch : Steve Gerrard.
- 22.8.02 : Isle of Wight County Press : Steve Gerrard.
- 24.8.02 : Portsmouth News : Steve Gerrard
- 30.8.02 : Crop Circle Convention, Andover (Table) : Steve Gerrard.

00.08.02 : UFO Magazine : SUFOG Article : Ernie Sears.
SUFOG at Janus Concert : Steve Gerrard and Steve Rider.

00.09.02 : Australian UFO Bulletin : SUFOG thanked in general.

17.9.02 : The Holistic Experience Group, Fareham lecture (Crop Circles) : Steve Gerrard.

20.9.02 – 22.9.02 : Leeds Conference : Steve Rider and Steve Gerrard.