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UFO

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Professor probes reports of UFOs

COLORADO SPRINGS SUN

FEB 4 1984

Slide presentation on UFO reports

Feb. 11 at City Aud

By Gene Birkhead
Colorado Springs Sun

The first time Leo Sprinkle saw an unidentified flying object was in 1949 in Boulder when he was a student at the University of Colorado. He didn't tell anyone.

"I didn't want to talk about it," he said, "I knew only kooks saw flying saucers."

He had his second sighting, also in Boulder, in 1956. This time he was with his wife who also saw the UFO, and he could not deny the experience.

That sighting started Sprinkle, now a professor of psychology at the University of Wyoming, on a long-term investigation of UFO reports. He has carried on his own research for 22 years and interviewed hundreds of people who have had UFO encounters. He has hypnotized many of them as an aid in recalling their experience.

Sprinkle will tell some of the results of his research in a slide-illustrated lecture at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 11 in the City Auditorium. His talk, "Patterns in UFO Reports," is sponsored by Cosmic Connections, Inc., a non-profit, metaphysical organization.

Sprinkle said his first investigation of a sighting was in 1961 in

Fargo, S.D., while he was working on his doctorate at the University of Missouri. It was part of a study of the psychological aspects of a UFO encounter. Without making any assumption on what was seen, he did determine that the newspaper accounts were true to the sighter's experience.

In the past 18 years Sprinkle has made a study of the people involved in about 250 sightings. He said he has made two kinds of observations.

His first is that people who see UFOs cover the entire spectrum of psychological traits. Mentally and psychologically, they are a cross section of people in the larger community.

His second observation is that most have some sort of psychic ability or exhibit some form of ESP (extra-sensory perception).

"Whether they are more likely to have the experience because of this ability, we don't know," he said. "There is a question as to whether the ability came before or after the experience."

He said it may be that people who have psychic ability are more willing to report sightings.

He has also noted that people reporting UFOs have symptoms of being under mental strain, but he does not find this extraordinary.

"They are reporting something strange," he said. "They know fear and anxiety in telling about it."

He noted that the explorers who first discovered Yellowstone National Park's strange hotpots and geysers in the midst of a winter's landscape and reported those things probably worried about being considered queer.

"We now have in writing thousands of UFO reports, but it will still take a while for the general population to accept it," Sprinkle said.

He is unwilling to give any personal opinion on what UFOs are or where they come from, but he said there are "speculations."

"The speculation is that human beings are under constant observation on this planet and this has been going on for thousands of years," Sprinkle said. "It has taken different forms in different times."

During Biblical times, he said, there were such manifestations as clouds of fire, angels, godly messengers and the vision of the golden wheel being lowered from the heavens. In contrast, today's UFOs are reported to be technologically advanced flying machines.

"The speculation is that these are being presented today in such a way as to lead us on to the next step," Sprinkle said.

He noted that it has been speculated the visual effects may be caused by some kind of hologram, presented in such a way that people interpret what they see as flying saucers.

"What people perceive as flying saucers may be a way to lead us on to the next step in evolution and development," Sprinkle said.

Along with his lecture, Sprinkle will show slides of UFO sightings,

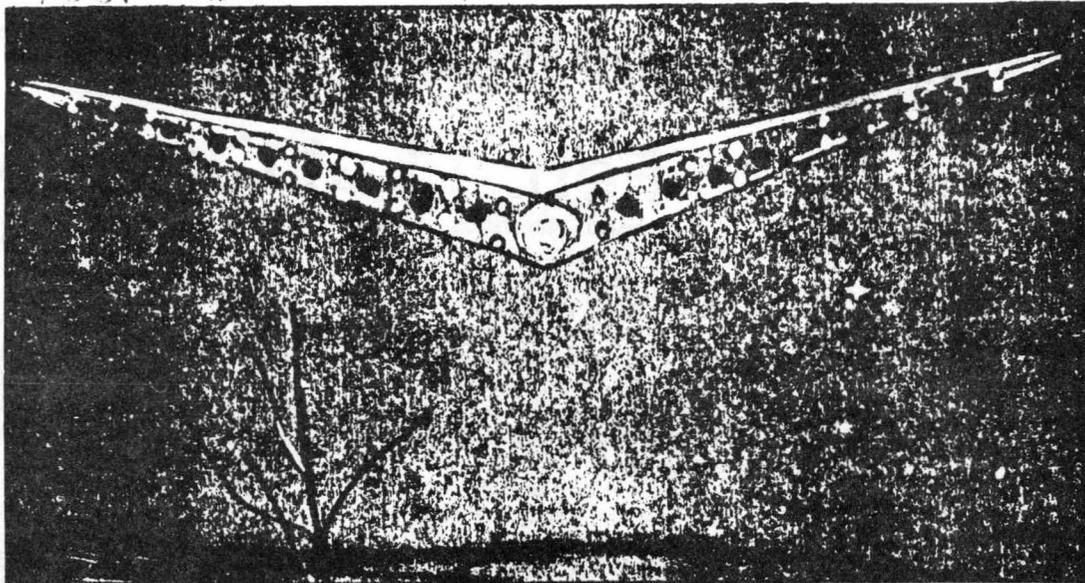
including that of a UFO photographed near Brazil in 1967. This object was observed by many sailors aboard a U.S. Navy ship.

Sprinkle has lectured across the country and has appeared and been a consultant on a number of national television shows, including "20/20," "Strange Harvest," "In Search of..." and the Tomorrow Show. His writings about his research have been published internationally, and he is a member of the editorial board for UFO Phenomena International Annual Review in Milan, Italy. He is also affiliated with research organizations in Arizona, Illinois and Texas and in England.

In Wyoming Sprinkle initiated a Laramie group PRO-UFOs, a paranormal research organization for UFO studies and the Institute of UFO Contactee Studies, Inc., which has nation-wide membership.

Tickets to his talk here are \$3.50 if purchased in advanced and \$5 at the door. Seniors and students are \$2.00, and children 12 and under, \$1.50. Tickets may be purchased at Chapter I-Copies II in Chapel Hills Plaza, Bookmark at Rustic Hills North, Celebration, 2209 W. Colorado Ave., and Poor Richard's, 315 N. Tejon St. They may be ordered by mail by calling 570-0785. //

NY POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL
FEB 8 1984



'Center for UFO Studies'

An artist's drawing of the boomerang-shaped UFO reported by residents. This drawing is from an article about the object in the *International UFO Reporter*/July, August, 1983

'Something spectacular'

*UFOs or formation-flying pilots?
Local boomerang sightings stir up fuss*

By William LaRue
Journal staff

The pilots said they never wanted people to think they were UFOs. They just enjoy flying at night. Together.

But then people started looking up. And so began the trouble.

Hundreds of citizens from Dutchess to Westchester counties breathlessly told police throughout 1983 that they spotted a blinking, boomerang-shaped UFO looming overhead.

At first the pilots, all local men, thought the UFO stuff was kind of funny. Then it got out of hand.

Drivers almost got in accidents looking at them. UFO buffs went bananas over it. The national press picked up the story.

ABC-TV's "Good Morning America" reported

it. So did other television shows, and then newspapers and magazines.

"Omni" science magazine called it the most spectacular display of UFOs in state history, "and possibly the nation."

And now the pilots wish to remain anonymous — even though this kind of flying is legal. They just don't want any hassles.

"One thing we've never wanted is publicity. And now it's been blown so out of proportion, it scares us," said one of the pilots, a Dutchess County man who agreed to speak for the pilots only if he wasn't identified by name.

"We're afraid if we're identified now, the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) will hassle us with an investigation and put our certification in jeopardy," he said.

See UFO, page 10

UFOs or fun-loving pilots?

Continued from page 1

The Poughkeepsie Journal tracked him down after talking to dozens of air officials, police agencies and other pilots.

Almost since the first UFO reports of V-shaped lights in March 1983, state police and other authorities have explained them as single-engine planes flying in formation out of Stormville Airport.

But some people are still not convinced.

"The aircraft theory explains perhaps 75 percent, but it does not rule out a great deal of the remaining reports," said Philip Imbrogno, a Westchester County science teacher and an investigator for the Center for UFO Studies.

He noted that many people said they saw the object hover overhead without a sound. Others said it did flips and shot down dazzling beams of light.

"Formation planes can't do that," he said.

Imbrogno said he doesn't know what kind of object is capable of such stunts. He said some UFO experts speculate it's a secret military aircraft.

A meteorologist at the Westchester County airport, Bill Hele, said he was riding on the Taconic Parkway in Westchester on March 17 when he saw a check-marked-shaped object.

The blinking form was nearly 1,000 yards wide, he added, and hovered overhead at 1,000 feet until it slowly drifted north out of his view.

Throughout the year, dozens of other witnesses said the object was shaped like a boomerang or a triangle, and had rows of white, green and red lights.

Some heard a faint humming or buzzing. Others heard nothing.

The UFOs were generally seen on Thursday nights.

Most of these accounts could describe the sight created by formation fliers, said the Dutchess County pilot, adding that Thursday was the most convenient flight time for the pilots.

"I'm not saying I don't believe in UFOs. But I've never seen one," the pilot said. "And I do think people are ignorant about flying — and allow imagination to make up for a lot of things."

The pilot said the single-engine planes — sometimes Cessna 150s — fly in a V-shaped or diamond formation as close as a wing-span apart.

Each aircraft has required red, green and white navigation lights as well as bright, white landing lights.

At least one of the pilots — usually near the rear of the formation — uses a rotating beacon that warns nearby aircraft.

He said the formations travel faster than 100 miles per hour, but often appear motionless because it is so wide and can be seen from long distances.

"If someone's on the ground and we're moving toward or away from him, it might appear we're not moving at all."

The pilots usually take off separately, then slowly move into formation one by one until a crude V-shape is formed with as many as five planes. Then fly together for miles, making constant adjustments along the way.

"The guy in the lead — the tip of the 'V' — has the easiest job. He just flies ahead and tells everyone his next move before he makes it."

The flier said the pilots communicate with each other by radio and sometimes with hand signals.

He said the pilots usually stick to a well-known path over the Taconic Parkway, and have traveled as far south as Westchester County.

The pilots last flew together on New Year's Eve, circling separately over Westchester while glancing at distant fireworks in New York City's Central Park.

The pilot acknowledged that few fliers risk these types of nighttime formations. But he insisted it is safe for well-trained pilots, adding he has about 3,000 hours of flight experience in more than 15 years.

"It's beautiful. Enjoyable. It's only dangerous if you don't know what you're doing," he said, adding the pilots avoid fatigue by never flying in formation for much more than an hour.

A spokesman for the FAA confirmed that it is not illegal to fly planes in formation at night. But he questioned its safety.

"Unless you are really good, it's risky at night," said Louis Architoff, manager of public affairs for the

agency that regulates commercial flight. "Not only are you looking for each other, you have to watch out for other aircraft in the area.

"Actually I think it's kind of foolhardy."

Imbrogno, the UFO researcher, believes the pilots are motivated less by skill-testing and more by the thrill of stirring up false UFO reports.

One night last summer, he said, he and others followed a formation to the Stormville Airport, where two pilots jumped out and ran toward parked vans.

"We were waiting for them. We stopped them, but they denied they even were in the air; they denied they had just landed.

"These guys knew UFO sightings were going on and so they started their leg-pulling. And kept it up."

Another local pilot, who asked not to be identified, said some of the formation fliers told him they enjoyed the UFO publicity.

"They get laughs reading about it in the papers," he said, adding he declined their offers to join the formations.

J. Allen Hynek, perhaps the country's leading UFO researcher, has devoted much of the last year studying the reports about the boomerang-shaped object.

Hynek, director of the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill., had a cameo role as a scientist in the hit movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

He, too, finds it hard to believe that that single-engine planes could account for reports that the UFO made 90-degree turns and hovered over witnesses.

Hynek said he wanted to talk to the pilots to find the truth.

"We like to see their flight logs, conduct an scientific inquiry," Hynek said. "Until some of these pilots stand up and are counted, the testimony of competent witnesses — an IBM executive, a meteorologist — still suggests it's something else.

"Something spectacular."

But the pilot said he and his fellow fliers have no plans to go public.

"This is our private enjoyment," he said. "We don't want to stop, but we don't want to be hounded either.

"And if somebody tags me — asks me if I'm one of the fliers — I'll deny it. And then I'll stop."

1381 UFO watchers asked to 'call home' to Lima center

By Tom Sheehan
Dispatch OSU Reporter

Have E.T. and his buddies parked their UFOs in the outer limits of another galaxy and given up their visits to Earth?

The answer is no, say a couple of UFO experts.

Although the number of reported UFO sightings is down from a decade ago, the reports coming into the Center For UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill., and its sister center in Lima, Ohio, are better than those of the past, they said.

John P. Timmerman, chairman of the UFO center's associate and business office in Lima, said plans are in the works to make the Lima office a national clearinghouse this year to gather information on sightings.

Timmerman said that, while the two centers receive reports of their own, there are many

other UFO investigators and experts throughout the country who also get reports but don't tell the Lima and Evanston centers.

What he wants to do, he said, is coordinate all those reports in one central location. "This will make our investigative process more efficient," he said.

The other investigators and experts will be asked to share some of their information on sightings so that detailed reports can be made and kept about where, when and how frequent the sightings are being made, Timmerman added.

J. Allen Hynek, director of the Evanston center, said that unlike a decade ago when hundreds of reports of UFO sightings poured in each week, the center now only gets 15 or 20.

"We get about two or three reports (a week) that I think are good," Hynek said. "The public is getting more sophisticated and is not reporting

the 'Goodyear Blimp' and the planet Venus as it once did.

"Most of the really best sightings are told to us in confidence by pilots and police officers."

He said another reason for the drop in UFO reports might be that people fear publicity. The government is continuing to ignore UFOs, at least in its public stance, he said.

Rob Orlos, media relations officer at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, said the Air Force ended its "Project Bluebook," the investigation of UFO reports, on Dec. 17, 1969.

Orlos said the Air Force project, which was operated out of Wright-Patterson, investigated 12,618 sightings between 1947 and 1969. He said 701 of the sightings remain unexplained.

Orlos said people sometimes mistake work being done by the Air Force's Foreign Technology Division at Wright-Patterson as being involved with UFO investigation.

That division studies technological advancements in weaponry made by countries that are U.S. adversaries, he said. The Air Force has no current plans to renew UFO investigations, he added.

Hynek, who was once on the faculty at Ohio State University, said widespread public interest in UFOs might be rekindled this spring when a book *Clear Intent* by UFO investigator Gary Fawcett is released by the Prentice Hall publishing company.

Fawcett used the Freedom of Information Act to gain access to government records, and the book details what those records say about UFOs and the government's interest in them, Hynek said.

"I think the book is going to cause a bit of a stir," he said. "I think the public will be quite surprised." //

Police, fire & court watch

UFO sightings are reported

Several people reported seeing an unidentified object streaming from the sky in a blaze of colors, two police agencies said last night.

State police at Kirkwood took a call from Paul Saunders of Wappingers Falls about 6:45 p.m. who said he just saw a greenish-blue object streak across the sky near Deposit, troopers said.

Saunders said he was driving west of Deposit on Route 17 when he, his wife and two children saw "a big green flame" in the sky.

Saunders said the flame changed colors as it disappeared behind a hill. He said then there was "a huge orange flash."

Saunders said he thought a plane may have crashed, so he called police.

At nearly the same time state police at Sidney received a call from an Oxford man reporting a similar light in the sky. State police in Sidney also received call from the Bainbridge Police Department, who said several callers had seen something fall from the sky, troopers said.

Each of the calls was about the same time and the callers gave similar descriptions, troopers said.

Troopers said some of the callers also believed the light to be from a crashing airplane.

However, Gilbert Magnum, area supervisor in the control tower at Edwin A. Link Field, Broome County's airport, said all planes were accounted for during that time.

Magnum said a controller on duty reported seeing something but could not identify it.

"We can discount it being a plane, but we don't know what it was," Magnum said. //

NY BINGHAMTON SUN-BULLETIN
JAN 30 1984

Police beat

UFO discounted. A spokesman for the National Weather Service at Edwin A. Link Field yesterday said the unidentified object that was seen falling from the sky near Deposit Saturday night was probably a meteorite.

"Meteors happen all the time," James Malinosky, a meteorologist for the weather service, said. "Literally thousands fall into the Earth's atmosphere every day. A lot are so small you can't see them . . . I didn't see that one, but from how it was described in the paper, I'd say chances are it was a meteorite."

Paul Saunders of Wappingers Falls called state police at Kirkwood at about 6:45 p.m. Saturday to report a greenish-blue streak crossing the sky near Deposit. Saunders said the flame changed colors and disappeared behind a hill, leaving a huge orange flash in its wake.

Almost simultaneously, state police at Sidney and Bainbridge village police received similar reports.

Some of the callers told police the light may have been an airplane crashing, but airport personnel discounted that possibility. //

Glowing object reported flying over area skies

Scores of residents within the eight-county South Jersey area from Trenton to Cape May called local police departments last night to report seeing a glowing object in the sky, officials said.

The reported sightings began about 6:30 p.m. and ended shortly after 7 p.m., said Trooper James Horn of state police headquarters in Ewing.

The National Weather Service in Philadelphia, the Federal Aviation Administration at Atlantic City Airport and the McGuire Air Force Base in Wrightstown all reported no unidentified objects on their radars.

"People all reported seeing a glowing ball in the sky anywhere from the size of a basketball to 25-feet in diameter," said Carol Stout, a supervisor at the Burlington County communications center in Westampton.

Anita Hager, 35, of the Ocean Heights Manor Apartments in Somers Point, Atlantic County, said she saw the object as she was entering her apartment.

"It was a pretty green and then it turned bright orange," she said. "It flew right over the parking lot and then toward the (Great) Bay. It was very fast."

Robert Gibble, a staff member for the National UFO Reporting Center in Washington state, said a meteor shower or comet would be an unusual occurrence in this area at this time of year. //

Raymond gives up his job to spot UFOs

MORE people have reported seeing strange lights in the sky over the Coppice.

One of them, Mr Raymond Broderick of 7 Devonshire-street, Accrington, has given up his job as an industrial cleaner to become a full-time flying saucer-spotter.

He came forward after a story in Tuesday's "Observer" in which two Huncoat women claimed to have seen UFOs.

Mr Broderick calls himself a UFO-logist and says he is devoting his life to the study of and research into unidentified flying objects.

"There is no doubt at all that they exist" he said, "I have seen hundreds since my first one in 1953".

That first sighting occurred when he was driving back from Keighley to Colne over the moors at night. He stopped to get some food with his partner and as they were sitting eating it in the darkness he noticed what looked like an

enormous triangle of light in the sky.

Among his more memorable sightings since was one in 1981 when he claims to have seen a flying saucer through this bedroom window. He describes it as having a bluey-green dome, shaped like a crystal ball, with a deep orangy-yellow base.

"I watched it move towards the Coppice and then disappear and it left behind a glowing vapour trail. It must have been about 6,000 feet up, and it was moving like a shell" he said.

Mr Broderick says he also witnessed a light hovering over the Coppice last week at the same time as the Huncoat women.

"The sky was clear and suddenly an enormous silver light appeared. It was as big as a 50p piece and had two lights as big as 5p pieces chasing it" he

said.

Mr Broderick says that many Accrington people must have seen UFO's but are frightened of making themselves look foolish in front of their friends and families.

"I am not scared of ridicule" he said, "I know they exist and I am going to prove it".

● In Tuesday's "Observer" Mrs Alice Moon of 498 Burnley-road, Huncoat, claimed that she saw an immensely-bright light hovering over the Coppice behind her house a week last Monday.

It was only the latest sighting in a long series of extraordinary experiences for her and her friend Mrs Nelly Holgate of 6 Moorfield-avenue, Huncoat, who say they have seen the mysterious light for the past two years.

NJ THE TRENTONIAN

JAN. 29 1984

UFO Lights Up Sky

There was a "close encounter of some kind" over the area last night and, until someone defined it — classify it as a UFO.

No one seems to know whether it was a meteor, a shooting star or a visitor from another planet, but many New Jersey residents know that a "ball of light" streaked through the sky heading south.

According to police in East Windsor and Burlington County Central dispatchers, the UFO appeared in the sky around 7 p.m. and caused citizens

and even patrolmen on the road to call authorities.

Police in East Windsor Township said a patrolman was alerted by a motorist on the New Jersey Turnpike who reported sighting a bright white light moving through the sky east of the highway.

"It started in Mount Holly," said a spokeswoman for the Burlington police dispatchers, "where the officers on the road called us to ask if we had anything going on."

"From there, calls began to come in from Willingboro, Medford and Evesham, where people said it landed in the southern part of the township," the spokesperson said.

McGuire Air Force Base also received several calls concerning the unknown object, a spokesman said. But the cause of the white flash of light was unidentified late last night.

— JOHN PAONE

Strike a light — It's another UFO!

A MAN who saw a bright object in the evening sky believes it might have been an alien spacecraft.

Father-of-three Mr. David Barlow said the light appeared to be stationary in the sky and yet diminished in size even as he watched it.

He is now hoping to contact UFO experts because he can think of no acceptable explanation for the episode.

Mr. Barlow (40), of St. Andrews Way, Frimley Green, was collecting his daughter from work when he first noticed the light, apparently above the Little Chef in London Road, Camberley.

He said: "It was about 5.30 p.m. and the car was parked. I was waiting for Tania (15) when I saw a light that was obviously larger than a normal star. It was larger than any star I have seen.

"I watched it for a minute or so. I expected it to be the headlight of an aeroplane. It did not appear to move. After a minute or so it seemed to diminish in size by about half."

FLARE

At that stage Mr. Barlow's daughter joined him. He asked her to watch the light while he drove home for his binoculars.

As Mr. Barlow drove towards home the light continued to get smaller and smaller, but his daughter lost sight of it behind clouds before they reached the house.

He said the light was the colour of starlight and otherwise featureless. Tania said she thought she could see a "sort of haze" around it.

Mr. Barlow, who works at the parks department of Rushmoor Council, said he would recognise a flare if he saw one.

"I used to live near Ash Ranges. In my youth I used to go over at night so I am pretty certain I would recognise a flare if I saw one," he said.

Asked if he believed in UFOs and life on other planets, Mr. Barlow said: "I don't disbelieve in things from outer space. I think it is quite possible, but I have no reason to believe it or disbelieve it."

Area 'may be focus for alien beings'

A LOCAL UFO expert is calling in outside help following a spate of mysterious sightings in the night sky.

He is convinced that the area is the centre of attention for alien beings from outer space.

There have been so many sightings recently that Mr. Omar Fowler has contacted Britain's leading lecturer on the subject, Mr. Timothy Good.

"It is important that we log all the information as quickly

as we can and I have called him in to help with interviewing the people who have reported sightings," said Mr. Fowler.

Power

"Our theory that we are in the middle of a period of intense UFO activity has certainly been confirmed during the past two weeks."

Numerous sightings of unusual objects in the sky have

been reported in the "News." Three more calls were received this week.

Mr. Samuel Mallaband, of Grove Farm, Mytchett, was driving along the M3 towards Frimley when he saw a "huge, oval shape" which was giving off an aura of colour.

He said it was blue/grey in colour and travelling across the sky at an extremely fast rate.

What was even more strange was that about eight minutes afterwards he lost all

power in his car. The lights went off and the radio emitted a loud hum.

"I had the car serviced the next day and there was absolutely no fault with the electrical system," said Mr. Mallaband.

"I don't know what it was in the sky but it certainly wasn't an aeroplane or a shooting star.

"I do not believe we are the only people in the universe and I definitely saw some-

thing I had never before seen in my life."

Startling

Mrs. Lilian Warren and Mrs. Eileen Dawson were driving along the M3 near Fleet when they experienced their close encounter.

They could not believe their eyes when they saw a "large, strange object surrounded by five little ones."

They were stationary and ringed by panels of light. After a while, the lights went out and the objects disappeared.

"It was really startling," said Mrs. Dawson, of Albert Road, Aldershot. "I have never seen anything like it.

"People think I'm mad but I don't care if they laugh. I know what I saw and I believe it was a UFO. It looked just like these little objects were guarding the mother ship."

Mrs. Warren, who runs a newsagents in Aldershot High Street, says she has always been sceptical about UFO's.

"Even now I've seen one I find it hard to believe, but it was certainly very strange."

The third report comes from Mr. David Barlow, of St. Andrew's Way, Frimley, who says he saw an unusual object in the sky over the town which looked like a "very, very big star with aeroplane landing lights."

Rage in 1950s, UFO 'sightings' just faded away

By JAMES RUSK

Globe and Mail Reporter

OTTAWA — "Starting at his nose where a plane has a propeller, he had a green light. It worked up and down.

"Next came two guns painted a bright red. Their action was up and down like a human arm. . . . Next he widened his tail slightly and out popped three fins."

In the early morning of Oct. 9, 1951, a First World War veteran thought he saw three space ships near Barrie, Ont., and he wrote the Department of National Defence to report his finding.

The 55-year-old army veteran's description of one of the space ships, quoted above, is the most vivid in the Defence Department's files on Unidentified Flying Objects, which are now declassified in the National Archives.

The files cover the period from 1947, when UFO fever started in North America with a widely publicized report about a sighting in Boise, Idaho, to 1964, when the annual number of

sightings in the file had tapered off.

They do not cover all the incidents reported to the Government during the period. Those which observers wished to be confidential are being kept under lock and key until the year 2000. Other reports are to be found in the records of meteor landings kept by the National Research Council.

But, even so, the Defence Department records make fascinating reading. While the names of those who reported UFOs are blacked out because of privacy provisions in the law, their occupations are recorded.

They range from scientific-unsophisticated observers such as Inuit in the North to housewives and to those with a great deal of experience with aerial phenomena, including a surprisingly large number of Royal Canadian Air Force personnel and the chief test pilot of Canadair, the Montreal aircraft manufacturer.

The papers are an equally

interesting record of what the airmen, bureaucrats and ministers thought they should do about the good citizens of Canada who persisted in seeing mysteries in the sky and about those who wrote letters to complain that the Government was keeping the "truth" about UFOs from the public.

Like so many other fads coming up from the south, flying saucers and the like got to Canada a bit late after their start in Idaho. The U.S. Air Force had already wrapped up a two-year investigation of UFOs when Canada started to get serious in 1950 and 1951 about investigating the phenomena that an increasing number of Canadians were reporting.

In April, 1952, the year when sightings seemed to have peaked, the Defence Research Board met to approve a formal reporting system in which RCAF intelligence officers were to interview those who had reported sightings and to fill out a monstrous form, which the military labelled Project Second Story.

The bureaucracy sprang into action. Only two days after the DRB let the form-fillers loose, N. R. Ronberg of the RCAF security police at Camp Borden was dispatched to find out more about what the Barrie veteran had seen the night of Oct. 9, 1951.

He found the three spacecraft were fuelled by alcohol. In the words of the report, when Mr. Ronberg arrived, the observer was "stretched out on his bed, fully clothed and under the influence of alcohol. The kitchen was littered with empty beer bottles and a number of full beer bottles were observed in the bedroom. It was not possible to interrogate him."

Two days later, when the observer was sober, the interview finally took place but the air force decided it did not have a reliable report.

But aging veterans were not the only observers to be found wanting. Newspaper editors suffered the same fate.

On April 21, 1951, the Lindsay, Ont., Post had triple-headlined a report by a member of the editorial board who had just happened to look skyward as he was observing his flower beds on a quiet Sunday morning.

"Flying Saucers over Lindsay? Mystery Craft Sighted over Lindsay Sunday. Made Sound Like Rushing of Wind," the headlines screamed.

But Squadron Leader J. N. Nalty, who was sent to Lindsay posthaste to interview the editor of the paper, for it was he who had been diverted from his tiptoe through the tulips to the parachute-shaped objects leaving vapor trails in the sky, was not impressed.

He described the editor as "an apparently sincere but definitely unreliable observer" and added "the interrogator could not avoid the impression that the observer, as editor, may have been unduly influenced by the fact that flying saucers made an excellent headline for a dull Monday morning."

If editors were not always the best observers, flyboys could also get overly excited by what they saw in the sky in 1952. On Aug. 21, the

lads who were manning the control tower at Trenton air base, one of the largest RCAF bases in the land, were aroused when they saw a brightly lighted object shimmering and wavering in the distance. They even got a radar echo from it.

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"Consequently, while all sighting reports are still collected when submitted by the general public, no further attempt has been made to analyze the data submitted."

CAN'T NEXT PAGE

THE RAGE IN 1950 CON'T

But that did not stop the public from writing about what they found. Typical was a Hamilton woman who eagerly wrote to say that at 2:50 a.m. on Feb. 6, 1959, she had been lying in bed and looking out a nearby window when she saw "this vehicle come into view from the mountain, proceeding from south to north, steadily, noiselessly, seemingly at tree-top height.

"It looked to be passing over Gage Park. Its flashing intermittent lights were orange in color with a bigger light on the front extension. I only saw it when the

lights were on. I couldn't see the shape but it was not like an aeroplane."

The Hamilton woman received an acknowledgement but no RCAF intelligence officer went to interview her.

By then, the letters were starting to come in from those who wanted to know what the Canadian Government knew about UFOs but would not tell the public. The most persistent writer of such letters was Ken Klaasen, a Vancouverite who billed himself an investigator for the "National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena."

In the 1960-1963 period, Mr. Klaasen carried on a series of correspondence with senior RCAF officers and two ministers of defence, Douglas Harkness and Paul Hellyer.

The letters presented the Government with a Catch-22 situation, as Mr. Klaasen regularly took the position that if the Government would not answer his questions about UFOs, he would know it either did not have the information or was keeping it secret.

In the summer of 1962, Mr. Harkness tried to tell him all was well. Of UFOs, the minister wrote: "If this term is used to mean artificial objects which are directed by an intelligence other than human, and of extra-terrestrial origin, then we can state that there is no evidence of the existence of such objects and that if any evidence becomes available, it would not be withheld from the Canadian public."

But the files show that those who

believed in UFOs and flying saucers and the like were not only representatives of groups like NICAP and the Intercontinental Aerial Research Foundation.

The late Wilbert B. Smith, who rose in the bureaucracy to be superintendent of the Radio Regulation Engineering section at the Department of Transport, was a believer as well.

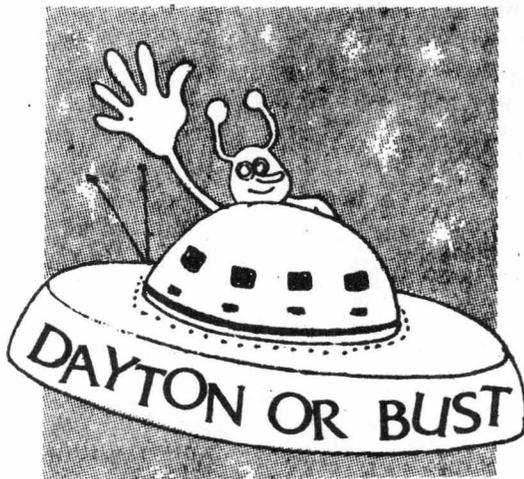
The longest portion of the DRB minutes for the April, 1952, meeting that approved the systematic collection of UFO data is devoted to his explanation of the extra-terrestrial theory for the origin of UFOs.

(DRB chairman O. M. Solandt balanced the books at the meeting by reporting on the terrestrial theory as propounded by an executive of A. V. Roe aircraft company, namely that they were a new type of aircraft, "presumably Russian.")

Mr. Smith, who gets a snide mention in a couple of memos as the self-appointed chairman of a Canadian committee on UFOs, is reported in the files to have been the head of a UFO research project, Project Magnet, which was of his own undertaking and for which there are no records of the findings in Defence Department files.

In the end, Ottawa seems not to have taken Mr. Smith too seriously. Rather, it followed the advice that it got from the Americans in 1950 when Canada first started to look into UFOs: ignore them as far as possible, for every report of Government interest in the sightings will only increase the number of sightings that are reported.

DAYTON DAILY NEWS
JAN 13 1984



Aliens

UFO expert asks: Are we alone?

By JAMES CUMMINGS
Metropolitan Staff Writer

What about these stories that somebody — probably somebody right here at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base — is storing the bodies of the aliens from a crashed flying saucer? And what about the crashed saucer; has anybody ever found a piece?

Why do all these short guys on the flying saucers look more or less like people? And why is it you can't tell the little green men from the little green women?

And most importantly, where do all those star jockeys come from and what the heck are they doing scaring decent folks on lonely country roads?

SOME OF THESE questions were answered — well, sort of — and some of them weren't, as J. Allen Hynek lectured Thursday evening to a large crowd at the Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

CON'T
NEXT
PAGE

UFO EXPERT ASK'S CON'T

Hynek, an astronomy professor, probably is best known locally as a consultant to the Air Force's Operation Bluebook. The operation, an investigation into the unidentified flying object phenomenon, was based at Wright-Patterson before it ended in 1969.

Hynek said he has retired his professor's job at Northwestern University and is spending most of his time investigating some rather wild stories as director of the Center for UFO Studies in Evanston, Ill.

MUSEUM OFFICIALS said about 1,300 people showed up at the museum's 500-seat auditorium for Hynek's two-hour lecture and question and answer session. About 200 watched the lecture from television monitors in a hall next to the auditorium while the rest occupied seats, stood in doorways and sat on the floor in the auditorium's outer aisles.

Some of those who asked Hynek questions apparently were convinced that the Earth is being buzzed by alien ships and that the government is involved in a massive cover-up. Others were more skeptical, but

all seemed fascinated with the subject's possibilities.

"No matter how much people scoff, they want to reserve a little area of belief somewhere in their minds," said Jay Walsh, an Air Force Lt. Colonel who attended the lecture.

Hynek was the first of six monthly lecturers scheduled to appear at the Air Force Museum this year. Hynek said he is used to big crowds, but was surprised at Thursday's turnout.

HYNEK SAID in his lecture that he doesn't know what UFOs are, but he said they merit investigation because thousands of credible witnesses have related experiences that can't be explained readily.

"To the person who has the experience these are absolutely real," he said. "There are 80,000 reports from 140 countries in (our) files. We must ask ourselves what's behind it."

Hynek said in his years of study, he knows of no instance where alien corpses or pieces of space craft have been found. In fact, he said there is very little physical evidence to suggest UFOs are space ships piloted by beings from space.

"I don't know why these things happen on lonely roads at nights, but that seems to be a given," he said. "Why do they never come down at half time at the Rose Bowl? Why never on the White House lawn."

"You'd think that there would be photographs, but nobody seems to have a camera at the critical time."

HYNEK SAID his Center for UFO Studies, which has an office in Lima, gathers data on flying saucer sightings, but hasn't begun to explain them. However, he said he is convinced UFOs are intelligently controlled.

He said UFOs could be vehicles traveling in time, or from other dimensions, or craft from some parallel reality which coexists with the world we know. "Intelligence, yes; but from other planets? I don't know," Hynek said. //

The silver disc-like objects moved in precise formation like fighter jets following the leader, first up and down, then zigzag.

"Ever since August, there's been a large hole in the ground near the woods on my property," says con-

cerned farmer Jesse Crouch.

"I've been farming this land for 30 years, and that hole was never there before."

UFO aliens are behind saucer hoax

ENQUIRER MAR 13 1984

By JOHN TURNER

A SMALL Alabama town has been the target of a UFO blitz that's turned the sky into a carnival of blazing colors for months.

More than 1,000 people have gathered in fields and airstrips to gaze at the starships.

The sightings have shaken Athens, Alabama, to its roots — for alien beings "smaller than human beings and larger than dogs" are peering and hovering above the Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant.

Trustworthy

"These are people who wouldn't make up something like that," says a Limestone County Sheriff's spokesman.

"They saw something down there."

"There have been too many people, kids and adults alike, who've spotted it."

Farmer Raymond Marsh thought he'd solved the mystery when he found three helium-filled garbage bags with flashlights inside floating in his cow field.

But within a few days, the spectacular show of lights in

the sky started again.

Now, townspeople fear the garbage bags were a plant by clever aliens who wanted earthlings to think the UFOs were a hoax.

One of the witnesses was Bobby Zirbel.

"What I saw was a very bright light moving in patterns that weren't possible in an airplane," Zirbel says.

His son, Steve, spotted the lights first and literally became frozen in his tracks, unable to move.

It was when his father went out to look for him that he, too, saw the spine-chilling show.

Incredibly, the objects darting through the sky have varied — from orange-colored balls of blazing lights to silver-colored, oval shaped objects with two antenna-like devices on top.

Hypnosis Shows His Incredible Story Is True, Psychiatrists Say

UFO Kidnaps Cop

Police officer Alan Godfrey went to investigate the disappearance of a herd of cattle — and was abducted by a UFO.

That's the shocking story the no-nonsense British constable told under hypnosis — and a leading UFO researcher-author who arranged the hypnotic sessions is convinced he's telling the truth.

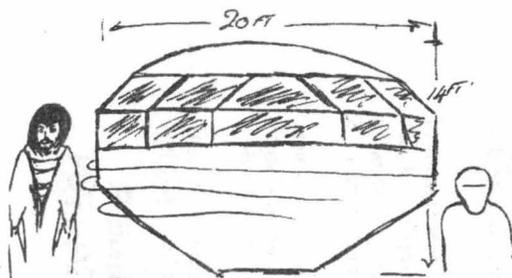
Godfrey, 36, had no memory of actually being taken aboard the alien spacecraft — but after being hypnotized on separate occasions by two psychiatrists, he told of being placed on a black bed inside the UFO and being medically examined by a strange bearded man in a white robe and eight robot-like creatures.

Researcher Jenny Randles, director of investigations for the British UFO Research Association, said that both psychiatrists "accept that the constable has had quite a genuine experience."

The incident began in the early morning hours of Nov. 28, 1980. Godfrey was on duty in his hometown of Todmorden. He can recall spotting the UFO, but had to undergo hypnosis to remember what happened inside the craft.

"It was just after 5 a.m. I was driving my patrol car, looking for a herd of cows that had reportedly wandered, when I saw a bright light ahead of me," he said.

"I drove closer and came to within 100 feet of the object. It was dome-shaped, with both top and base slightly curved. There were



DRAWING by officer Godfrey shows what UFO looked like.



KIDNAP SITE: Officer Godfrey shows road where UFO encounter took place.

five windows that were dark against the bright fluorescence of the object, which seemed to be metallic in my car's headlights. The top

seemed stationary. The bottom rotated from left to right.

"I estimated the object was 20 feet across, 14 feet



SKETCH shows how alien examined Godfrey inside UFO. He recalled the events while under hypnosis.

high and was hovering about five feet above the road."

Then an incredible thing happened, Godfrey said. One moment he was sitting in his car staring at the strange craft — and the next moment he found himself and the car 100 yards farther down the road — and his watch showed he had inexplicably "lost" 20 minutes!

Godfrey reported the incident at his police station — and by the next day, three police officers on a nearby force and one local man had reported seeing the UFO.

UFO researcher Randles and her group arranged for a series of hypnosis experiments to help Godfrey recall what had happened during his 20-minute time gap.

He described trying to

make his radios work when dazzling light beams shot out toward his police car from the UFO. Then . . .

"... I'm in a room now . . . (Godfrey whimpers, as if in fright) . . . there's a him, he's about six foot, looks like a man . . .

"He's got a white . . . like a white sheet on him . . . he has a beard and he's got a skullcap on . . ."

Still under hypnosis Godfrey described "horrible" little robot-like creatures with a single horizontal eye.

He described machinery in the UFO, and talked of pain and flashing lights in his head.

Today, Godfrey says, "I'm convinced I was abducted by space aliens."

— PAUL BANNISTER

Man goes fishing — is caught by flying saucer

ANGLER ALFRED BURTOO has quite a different tale to tell after his fishing trip to a remote canal. It was he who got caught — by little green men who took him aboard their flying saucer.

The astonishing incident occurred at Aldershot, England, where experts are convinced of the validity of his story. Comments Omar Fowler of the Surrey Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena: "I've been investigating UFO sightings for 16 years, and this is the most sensational thing that's ever happened."

Burtoo, 77, accompanied by his dog, Tiny, was fishing in the canal when, he says, the flying saucer landed.

"I saw a bright light coming towards me, and it hovered just over the railway line," he recalls.

"It then settled on the bank. I went to have a look, and two figures dressed in pale green suits came towards me.

"They were about four feet tall and had dark visors covering their faces.

"One of them beckoned me, and I followed them to the steps.

"I wasn't afraid — I was more curious than anything."

Burtoo then describes going aboard the UFO.

"It was made of a kind of burnished aluminum, and I climbed some steps and went inside," he says.

"I walked across the room, and one of the aliens spoke to me in a kind of sing-song voice, with an accent something between Russian and Chinese.

"He asked me to stand under the amber light. I

... He's examined by little green men



ALFRED BURTOO points to where flying saucer landed.

By HAROLD LEWIS

couldn't see it at first, because there was a kind of black tube blocking my view.

"Then I saw it and went and did as I was told.

"After a few moments, they then asked me to turn around, which I did. They asked me how old I was, and

I told them the truth.

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

Burtoo left the spaceship and was halfway along the towpath when it took off.

Burtoo says: "I didn't believe in flying saucers until this hapened to me."

Believed

Although Burtoo told his wife, son and a neighbor about his close encounter, he didn't report it officially, because he didn't think he'd be believed.

There have been dozens of unexplained reports of unidentified flying objects in the area during the past 15 years.

Says Fowler: "I was very skeptical about his story when I went to interview him.

"But he came out with things he couldn't possibly

have known about unless he'd been studying UFOs for years.

"I'm convinced his story is absolutely true and this actually happened."



EXAMINER
JAN 24-1984

UFO SIGHTING CONFIRMED BY GOVERNMENT FOR FIRST TIME

GLOBE
FEB 21 1984

AT LAST, a highly-placed government agency has confirmed that UFOs really exist.

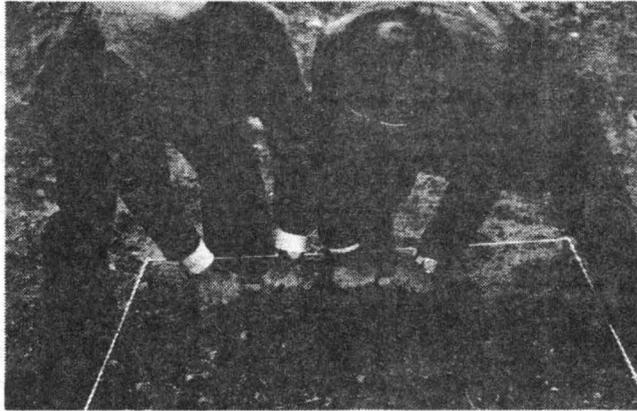
Top-secret documents obtained by GLOBE from the National Space Studies Center in Paris reveal the startling details of this first officially corroborated sighting, which took place in the south of France.

The report — which has been given the Center's stamp of approval — took three years to prepare. It involves extensive scientific research at the landing site and hinges on the personal story of Renato Nicolai, 55, who saw the spaceship touch down in his garden.

Nicolai, an Italian-born construction worker, is retired and lives in the valley of AI, near the village of Trans-En-Provence on the French Riviera.

"On the afternoon of Jan. 8, 1981, I was working in the garden, building a cement bunker for a water pump," he told investigators for the Center, which is the French equivalent of NASA. "It was about 5 p.m. when I heard a strange whistling noise above me.

"I looked up and I could see a sort of aircraft, high



EXPERTS examine spot where UFO sucked chlorophyll out of the grass

above me. I knew at once it was not a normal plane, because it was round in shape, and the noise was very peculiar.

"The craft was getting lower, but the noise level did not rise. Finally, the ship hovered over a high pine tree, at the edge of the woods. After a few seconds, it flew off sideways toward the setting sun.

"It just whizzed off, with no great noise. I could see no flames around the aircraft, or any sign of an engine of any kind. It was metallic gray, with no lights, and perfectly round.

"Then, just as suddenly, it

reappeared and flew toward me once more. I was standing with my back to an outbuilding behind my house, and could see everything very clearly.

"The craft hovered again over the plain, about 20 yards from where I was standing. Then it lowered, and finally landed on the grass.

"I could still hear the whistling sound, but it was not at all loud. It just sat there, and the whistling continued.

"I could see no windows in the craft," Nicolai continues. "It was quite small, about 36-feet in diameter, and only about nine-feet high. It had a matte finish that looked exactly like lead.

"It looked like two giant saucers, one overturned to sit on the other. There was an opening in the middle. I waited, with my heart thumping for

How scientists gathered the amazing evidence

WHEN word of Renato Nicolai's astounding sighting reached the National Space Studies Center, they dispatched teams of the top scientists in France to investigate. Their findings convinced officials at the Center that the evidence of a UFO landing was sound beyond question.

The earth where the UFO touched down was almost 100 times as hot as normal and had been mysteriously drained of vital water, oxygen and chlorophyll, the stunned scientists reported.

The soil on the landing site was closely examined by experts from the prestigious Paul Sabatier University of Science at Toulouse. Effects on vegetation were analyzed by biochemists from the National Institute of Agricultural Research at Avignon. These are some of the investigation team's astonishing findings:

- Soil temperature at the site, normally 6.8 degrees centigrade, was measured at an alarming 600 degrees the day after the landing.
- The soil was totally deprived of moisture. Its normal humidity is about 30 per cent.
- Experts could find no traces of engine combustion or hydrocarbon residues usually left by aircraft.
- Iron oxides, zincs, phosphates and other normal mineral components were found crystallized in excessive amounts, indicating fierce heat.
- Oxygen, chlorophyll and water had literally been extracted both from young plant shoots and older grass.
- In spite of the searing heat levels, plants were not burnt or scorched — only whitened.
- All the young plants were lacking in vitamin A.
- The soil and vegetation petaliferous were still discernible on the landing site 40 days after the UFO was sighted.
- Experts concluded that the traumatic transformation of plant life did not appear to be due to normal energy pollution but rather to an incredibly powerful electrical force.

"It was so close & so ominous that I knew I was being observed"

about 20 minutes. The ship was sitting on the grass. It had no wheels or legs or supports underneath that I could see.

"I thought I was about to be confronted by a creature from outer space, or that my home would be attacked. It was so close, and so ominous. I knew I was being observed. I could feel a presence very strongly.

"Finally, the whistling grew to a higher pitch, and the ship rose off the ground, until it was hovering again about 20 yards up.

"I ran up to it and stood right underneath it. There was no smoke or flame, but I felt a slight gust of wind.

"It hovered there for about two minutes, then it turned over on its side and took off like lightning, whizzing through two big trees at the edge of the wood. It went higher, still on its side, and soon I could see nothing."

At that point, Nicolai says, he noticed that the grass where the saucer had settled had turned white. Scientists from the Space Studies Center later determined that the chlorophyll, which makes plants green, had been leached out of the grass.

Daniel Metzle, a spokesman for the Space Studies Center, refuses to comment on the details of the report, but he acknowledges: "I am prepared to confirm that a very important sighting was made in Trans-En-Provence in January, 1981."

— LEN STONE

Rage in 1950s, UFO 'sightings' just faded away

By JAMES RUSK

Globe and Mail Reporter

OTTAWA — "Starting at his nose where a plane has a propeller, he had a green light. It worked up and down.

"Next came two guns painted a bright red. Their action was up and down like a human arm. . . . Next he widened his tail slightly and out popped three fins."

In the early morning of Oct. 9, 1951, a First World War veteran thought he saw three space ships near Barrie, Ont., and he wrote the Department of National Defence to report his finding.

The 55-year-old army veteran's description of one of the space ships, quoted above, is the most vivid in the Defence Department's files on Unidentified Flying Objects, which are now declassified in the National Archives.

The files cover the period from 1947, when UFO fever started in North America with a widely publicized report about a sighting in Boise, Idaho, to 1964, when the annual number of sightings in the file had tapered off.

They do not cover all the incidents reported to the Government during the period. Those which observers wished to be confidential are being kept under lock and key until the year 2000. Other reports are to be found in the records of meteor landings kept by the National Research Council.

But, even so, the Defence Department records make fascinating reading. While the names of those who reported UFOs are blacked out because of privacy provisions in the law, their occupations are recorded.

They range from scientifically unsophisticated observers such as Inuit in the North to housewives and to those with a great deal of experience with aerial phenomena, including a surprisingly large number of Royal Canadian Air Force personnel and the chief test pilot for Canadair, the Montreal aircraft manufacturer.

interesting record of what the air-men, bureaucrats and ministers thought they should do about the good citizens of Canada who persisted in seeing mysteries in the sky and about those who wrote letters to complain that the Government was keeping the "truth" about UFOs from the public.

Like so many other fads coming up from the south, flying saucers and the like got to Canada a bit late after their start in Idaho. The U.S. Air Force had already wrapped up a two-year investigation of UFOs when Canada started to get serious in 1950 and 1951 about investigating the phenomena that an increasing number of Canadians were reporting.

In April, 1952, the year when sightings seemed to have peaked, the Defence Research Board met to approve a formal reporting system in which RCAF intelligence officers were to interview those who had reported sightings and to fill out a monstrous form, which the military labelled Project Second Story.

The bureaucracy sprang into action. Only two days after the DRB let the form-fillers loose, N. R. Ronberg of the RCAF security police at Camp Borden was dispatched to find out more about what the Barrie veteran had seen the night of Oct. 9, 1951.

He found the three spacecraft were fuelled by alcohol. In the words of the report, when Mr. Ronberg arrived, the observer was "stretched out on his bed, fully clothed and under the influence of alcohol. The kitchen was littered with empty beer bottles and a number of full beer bottles were observed in the bedroom. It was not possible to interrogate him."

Two days later, when the observer was sober, the interview finally took place but the air force decided it did not have a reliable report.

On April 21, 1951, the Lindsay, Ont., Post had triple-headlined a report by a member of the editorial board who had just happened to look skyward as he was observing his flower beds on a quiet Sunday morning.

"Flying Saucers over Lindsay? Mystery Craft Sighted over Lindsay Sunday. Made Sound Like Rushing of Wind," the headline screamed.

But Squadron Leader J. N. Nalty, who was sent to Lindsay posthaste to interview the editor of the paper, for it was he who had been diverted from his tiptoe through the tulips to the parachute-shaped objects leaving vapor trails in the sky, was not impressed.

He described the editor as "an apparently sincere but definitely unreliable observer" and added "the interrogator could not avoid the impression that the observer, as editor, may have been unduly influenced by the fact that flying saucers made an excellent headline for a dull Monday morning."

If editors were not always the best observers, flyboys could also get overly excited by what they saw in the sky in 1952. On Aug. 21, the lads who were manning the control tower at Trenton air base, one of the largest RCAF bases in the land, were aroused when they saw a brightly lighted object shimmering and wavering in the distance. They even got a radar echo from it.

But they cooled off and took a precise measurement of its location and found that it was the planet Jupiter and decided that the radar reading was an "anomalous propagation caused by temperature inversion."

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But that did not stop the public from writing about what they found. Typical was a Hamilton woman who eagerly wrote to say that at 2:50 a.m. on Feb. 6, 1959, she had been lying in bed and looking out a nearby window when she saw "this vehicle come into view from the mountain, proceeding from

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RAGE IN 1950s
CONT'

By then, the letters were starting to come in from those who wanted to know what the Canadian Government knew about UFOs but would not tell the public. The most persistent writer of such letters was Ken Klaasen, a Vancouverite who billed himself an investigator for the "National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena."

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THE GLOBE AND MAIL
JAN. 13 1984

40 report UFO in Ukraine

MOSCOW (Reuter) — A mysterious bright object flew at great speed across Ukraine and southern Russia last month and Soviet scientists are puzzled and divided about what it was, the Moscow newspaper Trud reported yesterday.

It said more than 40 witnesses had filed reports of the object, a bright sphere followed by seven smaller lights, which crossed the sky on the night of Dec. 2.

Most said they saw it changing altitude and direction and some claimed they saw a "construction

like a space ship, flying less than a kilometre (half a mile) above the ground," Trud reported.

The daily cited different experts as saying it may have been a meteorite, ball lightning, or parts of a satellite burning up in the atmosphere.

The head of the Ukrainian Commission for Cosmic Research, Grigory Pisarenko, said the object was flying too slowly and too near the ground to have been a meteorite. Its speed has been calculated as 5,950 kilometres an hour.

'Track the UFOs' says vicar

3128

BANBURY
GUARDIAN
NOV. 10 1983

BY DAVID CHADWICK

Space, that final frontier, and outer limit of a twilight zone which may be populated by extra-terrestrials, holds many unearthly secrets.

And it is such inter-galactic mysteries which an Oxfordshire clergyman is trying to probe — and he has appealed to Banbury Guardian readers for aid in an investigation into the UFO phenomenon.

It may sound like something out of a space-age comic book, or an episode from Gerry Anderson's UFO television series, but the Rev Donald Thomas, of the Rectory, Long Hanborough, is serious about his investigations.

He is asking Banbury area to people who spot possible UFOs or ETs to "phone him, rather than phone home," with details of the sightings, such as where the object was seen, when and what it looked like. He can be contacted by telephone on Freeland (0993) 881270, or by letter.

CYCLES

For he is convinced visitors from other parts of the galaxy visit planet earth in four yearly cycles and believes October this year may have been a period of increased UFO-related activity.

Part of the UFO mystery lay in the apparent cycles, or frequency with which UFO sighting reports built up.

"From the peak of 24 provincial newspaper reports focussed on just one day, October 26, 1967 — to a similar, but much smaller peak in the latter part of October 1971, as reported in the Banbury Guardian, the four year cycle would have appeared to have continued up to October 1975."

"It would be interesting to discover whether October 1983 has produced anything at all in the way of authentic sightings, since little, or nothing of note has been reported for a very long time," he said.

The last time any extra-terrestrial, or UFO activity took place in Banbury and district was way back in October 1971, when the Banbury Guardian reported a spate of inexplicable aerial sightings.

There were so many that the Banbury Guardian's lead story on October 28, reported the Ministry of Defence was to investigate the flood of UFO reports in this area, during the previous few weeks.

The question which now remains is: was October this year of similar UFO vintage to the same month 12 years ago, with its plethora of unearthly goings on in the heavens?

UFO³¹²⁸ on Stansted flight path?

TWO local men were mystified by a wierd sight in the sky last Wednesday night.

The perplexed pair spotted a strange large shape up above the Harlow sky escorted by two aircraft — on the Stansted Airport flight path.

Michael Barham and his father David of Abbotsweld, Harlow, immediately stopped the car and leapt out to get a look at the fascinating vision flying in formation in the sky.

Michael, a cellarman at the Playhouse, spoke later of his close encounter with space: "The aircraft were lighted, but the strange shape sandwiched between them was not.

"The planes seemed to be in formation — and they were flying quite fast. There were flying very low, speeding across the sky towards Stansted.

"In the middle was the mysterious black blob."

In only a few seconds the unidentified flying object and the planes had disappeared.

When he got home, Michael contacted Stansted Airport to find out what the peculiar plane was ... but they said they knew nothing about it.

Michael thinks the odd ob-

ject could have been a UFO from outer space, and wants to know if anyone else spotted the bizarre phenomenon in the sky last Wednesday night.

If so, give us a call at the Gazette. We're waiting to hear from you ...

FARNBOROUGH NEWS & MAIL
ALDERSHOT JAN 31 1984

3128

UFO 'bigger than jet aircraft'

ANOTHER Ash resident has reported seeing strange lights in the sky after reading of UFO sightings in the "News."

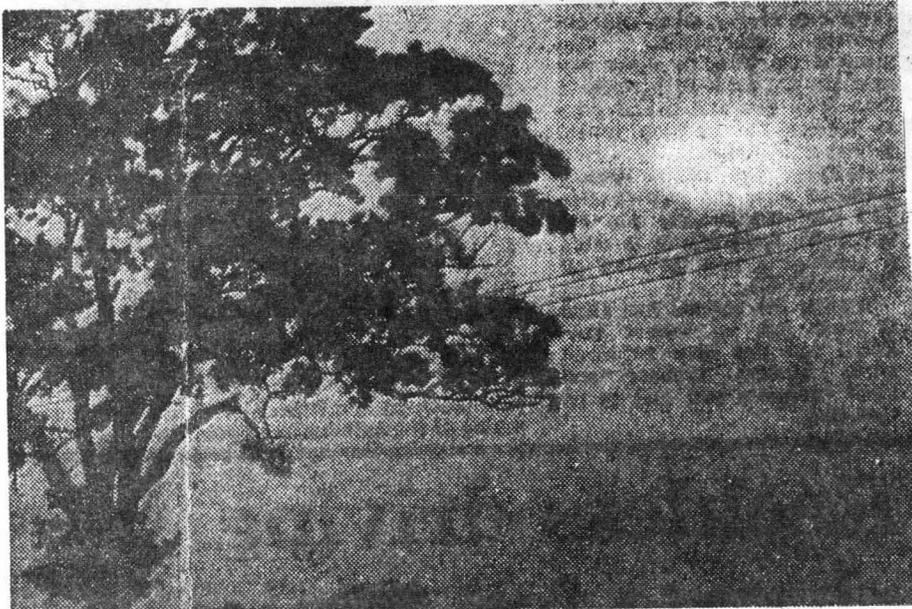
Mr. Andrew Roberts was turning from Farnborough Road, Aldershot, to Cranmore Lane when he saw a large, blue object flying west over the town.

"I stopped the car to reassure myself that this was not a trick of light," said Mr. Roberts, of Oxenden Road, Ash.

He said the apparition was in view for about 10 seconds. It was four times bigger than a jet aircraft which was also in the sky.

"I am usually very sceptical about such sightings but I have no explanation for what I saw," he added.

On the trail of those elusive UFOs



The mystery object seen near York in September 1971.

EARLY in December last year a number of people claimed they saw a most unusual object in the sky above Elvington, near York.

An investigation was carried out by York Astronomical Society, which concluded that the object was a very bright fireball. But others were not quite so sure.

Mark Birdsall, co-founder of the Yorkshire Unidentified Flying Objects Society (YUFOS), believes that there were two quite separate objects in the sky that night.

UFO SPOTTERS have been the subject of the public's derision for many years. They have been pilloried for having over-active imaginations and blasted for inducing innocent people to believe that the meteorite they saw was really a flying saucer complete with armed extra-terrestrials.

But is this fair? Nobody knows for certain just how large the universe is; what it contains; and how it was created.

We all have our views on this eternal and inexhaustible subject so why do we deride those who happen to believe that there are forces about which are beyond our comprehension?

So — bearing this in mind and determined to keep my incredulity in check — I ventured out into the unknown to interview two men who have dedicated their life to proving that unidentified flying objects do exist.

The venue was amusingly bizarre in the circumstances — on the eleventh floor of one of those massive high-rise blocks of flats so beloved by planners of yesteryear.

Yes, 67 Lovell Par Towers, Leeds, seemed the appropriate place for the nerve centre of one of Yorkshire's newest societies: The Yorkshire Unidentified Flying Objects Society (YUFOS).



By
Robert
Beaumont

Certainly, it is a good vantage point from which to study any extra-terrestrial phenomena that happen to be passing!

There, waiting for me,

were Mr Mark Birdsall and Mr Bill Tree. Mark is the research director of YUFOS and Bill is an investigator.

Bill told his story first; outlining the day he "saw" a flying saucer, which changed his whole life.

"I was about 12 years old and was helping my father in our allotment on the New Wortley Road Recreation ground on the outskirts of Leeds. The allotment was at the highest part of the ground and from there one can see for several miles over Leeds," he explained.

"It was a sunny afternoon and my father and brother, aged 10, were on their knees I was digging about 10 yards in front of them. As I was stretching my back, I looked up to my left and there in the blue sky was what appeared to be a very fast moving star or shooting star," he said.

Privilege

This happened in 1955 and, as Bill pointed out, no man had ever been near the moon at the time.

"When the star was opposite me, but a few miles away in the sky appearing just over Leeds United's football ground, it suddenly stopped dead. At that moment I knew this was no shooting star," he said.

CON'T NEXT PAGE

So Bill stared at this object and watched in amazement as it altered course and headed straight towards him.

"What was so incredible was its speed; within four seconds it was there as large as life in front of me. In between the flying saucer and me were my father and my brother with their backs towards it," he said.

"It was the length of three double-decker buses, a saucer-shaped dome on top

with a less prominent dome below. All the way round the centre of the outer edge of the saucer were round portholes. This part was slowly rotating, whilst the top dome was spinning," Bill explained.

Bill could not believe what he was seeing and shouted to his father and brother: "Look, look a flying saucer, right behind you."

But, by the time they turned round, the flying saucer had gone.

Not surprisingly, Bill's father was rather sceptical and when Bill suggested reporting the incident to the police, his father said no.

"He thought the police might think I was odd and told me to keep the incident to myself," said Bill. "But he changed his mind when he saw the local paper on the Monday."

For there was an article saying that about 200 people in different parts of Leeds had seen a UFO flying over the city. Even two policemen had noted it down in their books.

"But I was the only person to see it at close quarters. I think it was a privilege," he said.

I can hear all you cynics saying that Bill dreamt up the whole incident; that nothing of the sort ever happened.

But, having talked to Bill, I am convinced that he is convinced that he saw a flying saucer. He is a sincere, responsible man who runs a successful television rental business. He is certainly not a crank.

Neither is Mark Birdsall, an articulate 25-year-old who set up YUFOS with his brother Graham in 1981 — having broken away from Contact International, the main UFO society.

"We felt we were not get-

TRAIL OF LIFO'S CON'T



Mr Mark Birdsall and Mr Bill Tree of the Yorkshire Unidentified Flying Objects Society (YUFOS).

ting enough feedback from Contact and it would be better to branch out on our own," he said.

One quite extraordinary incident and its aftermath persuaded Mark that Yorkshire needed an independent society.

"It concerns a lorry driver who was driving through Yorkshire from the south. He was married but he was visiting another woman, which is why he remains anonymous. It was early in the 1970s," recounted Mark.

Frightening

"Having left his lady friend early in the morning (about 5am, he walked across some dense woodland to get back to his lorry. It was a cold, misty summer's day," he said. "Suddenly the driver saw something really frightening."

"A long black cigar-like object landed in an opening in the wood and humanoid figures, dressed in black got out. Apparently there were about 36 of these men with one leader, who was shouting instructions in what sounded Dutch or German," he said.

These "people" were equipped with what appeared to be torches or guns and they were tapping the ground with them.

But the figures ran back into their black machine the moment they saw the driver and his lorry. One of them dropped his (or her or its) instrument in the panic but dashed back to collect it. Then the machine moved off at a terrific speed, making no noise at all.

The lorry driver kept quiet about his experience for a couple of years — because of the woman involved — but his story eventually came to the notice of Contact International.

"This is where the story gets really interesting," said Mark. "I firmly believe that there was some military involvement here and that Contact International were told to hush the whole incident up."

So eventually Mark and his brother decided to go it alone and they founded YUFOS.

Mark is convinced that here is a lot of top secret military activity going on behind the scenes, which explains UFO sightings. But Bill disagrees.

But, despite their differences, Mark and Bill are working towards the same goal: To find out as much as they can about every reported UFO sighting.

One such sighting, which occurred at Elvington, near York, on December 12, has fascinated Mark.

Many locals saw an object described as a glowing blue and red ball of light which exploded into a multitude of colour. It was later identified by the York Astronomical Society as a fireball — part of the so-called Gemini stream.

"We accept this," said Mark, "but I am convinced there was something else over Elvington that night. The fireball was seen at about 8.30pm but we have a witness who saw something much bigger and more inexplicable at 7.00pm"

The witness is a 39-year-old farm labourer who says he saw a huge circular object in the sky with numerous coloured lights and a triangle of lights on the underside. It was about the length of five aircraft and made no noise at all.

"The farm labourer was absolutely terrified and we are sure the object he saw was not the same as the object that others saw some

time later," said Mark. "For one thing they were travelling in different directions."

To get my feet firmly back on the ground, I then visited Mr Trevor Wood, last year's chairman of the York Astronomical Society.

Trevor was sceptical of the story of the Elvington farm labourer.

"I find it incredibly difficult to believe there were two different sightings on the same night. That would be an incredible coincidence," he said. "But I can confirm the fireball incident."

"We have very little contact with UFO societies and I personally believe that 99 per cent of sightings can be explained naturally," he said.

What about that remaining one per cent?

"That can be put down to lack of scientific knowledge," he said. "I cannot subscribe to flying saucers or undercover military operations."

"Personally I think some UFO societies do a lot of harm by misleading people. Many of these so-called sightings of flying objects can be so easily explained."

"And," said Trevor, "why do we so rarely get sightings of UFOs from amateur astronomers? Is it because they can explain rationally exactly what they have seen?"

And so the arguments rage on; arguments which, taken to their logical conclusion, arrive at a question that has puzzled man from the very start. Is there a force in the universe so immense that we are totally unable to comprehend it?

Naturally, I don't know so I'll end with a delightful saying from the east.

It goes: "Any self-respecting Buddhist can produce a flying saucer. It's just a concentrated thought form."

Strike a light — It's another UFO!

A MAN who saw a bright object in the evening sky believes it might have been an alien spacecraft.

Father-of-three, Mr. David Barlow said the light appeared to be stationary in the sky and yet diminished in size even as he watched it.

He is now hoping to contact UFO experts because he can think of no acceptable explanation for the episode.

Mr. Barlow (40), of St. Andrews Way, Frimley Green, was collecting his daughter from work when he first noticed the light, apparently above the Little Chef in London Road, Camberley.

He said: "It was about 5.30 p.m. and the car was parked. I was waiting for Tania (15) when I saw a light that was obviously larger than a normal star. It was larger than any star I have seen.

"I watched it for a minute or so. I expected it to be the headlight of an aeroplane. It did not appear to move. After a minute or so it seemed to diminish in size by about half."

FLARE

At that stage Mr. Barlow's daughter joined him. He asked her to watch the light while he drove home for his binoculars.

As Mr. Barlow drove towards home the light continued to get smaller and smaller, but his daughter lost sight of it behind clouds before they reached the house.

He said the light was the colour of starlight and otherwise featureless. Tania said she thought she could see a "sort of haze" around it.

Mr. Barlow, who works at the parks department of Rushmoor Council, said he would recognise a flare if he saw one.

"I used to live near Ash Ranges. In my youth I used to go over at night so I am pretty certain I would recognise a flare if I saw one," he said.

Asked if he believed in UFOs and life on other planets, Mr. Barlow said: "I don't disbelieve in things from outer space. I think it is quite possible, but I have no reason to believe it or disbelieve it."

Did the UFOs return?

RECENT REPORTS of mysterious sightings, possibly UFOs, above Rangeworthy, have reminded Mr. Ken Brown, of Tytherington, who recalls similar phenomenon in the area 13 years ago.

A report in the Gazette, on January 6, told of three people sighting a flying bright yellow light in the Rangeworthy area on Christmas Day. A letter published the following week gave some possible explanations for the strange occurrence, such as car headlights reflecting off low clouds, or strong wind causing electricity lines to bend and arc, another possible explanation was ball lightning, a rare scientific phenomenon composed of globules of electricity brought about by bad weather conditions. Other readers confirmed they had also seen the strong lights.

It is odd though that

the sighting on Christmas Day and the sightings of 1970 were similar and from roughly the same area.

Mr. Brown's first sighting took place on September 1, 1970, when he saw a series of bright yellow orange flashes in the sky.

Two weeks later, on September 15, he was out walking his dog when he saw a bright light in the sky, this lasted for about ten minutes, eventually the light assumed a cigar-like elliptical shape and appeared to come closer. Mr. Brown says it could not have been an aircraft as it remained stationary for several minutes.

Both Mr. Brown's sightings were in the Tytherington area.

These sightings were verified by Mr. and Mrs. Mewburn, of Old Sodbury, who witnessed a similar spectacle on the same two nights.

Mr. Brown, who was at the time head of the science department at Castle School, Thornbury, contacted the Meteorological Office about his strange sightings.

The reply he received suggested that the initial flashes could have been flashes from guns involved in Army Manoeuvres on Salisbury Plain. Although it is a long way away, the Met Office said that the flashes could have been reflected by cloud.

The explanation for the second sighting on September 15 suggested that the elliptical area of brightness could have been caused by the planet Venus, which was visible at the time.

The reply continued "Although the foregoing is the preferred explanation of what you saw, it is just possible that the object was an aircraft over Filton Airport". They agreed that it is unlikely for a plane to remain visible for a quarter of an hour, but said "it might well have appeared stationary to an observer on the extended line of flight."

Neither Mr. Brown nor the Mewburns accepted these explanations, and at the time of the sightings Mr. Brown said he did not believe in theories about unidentified objects from outer space, but was just seeking a rational explanation.

Seen any UFO's lately?

BALHAM + Tooting NEWS LONDON FEB 17 1984

Sir,

I am a local member of a nationwide organisation called ASSAP - the Association for the Scientific Study of Anomalous Phenomena. We are currently undertaking a research project which involves compiling on a national scale a "Domesday Book" of unusual happenings together with any factors likely to be related. We intend to publish individual chapters as each area is looked at.

Events we are logging include hauntings, poltergeist activity, UFO sightings, miracles and other "paranormal" occurrences. We also include ancient sites and physical elements such as magnetic field variations, caverns, mineral deposits and odd rock formations, all of which may have some connection.

I would be very grateful if readers could provide us with any references or personal experiences, but more especially we need to record local legends, myths and even old-wives tales. These in themselves are valuable and relevant.

All this information is likely to be lost or forgotten unless it is documented

Clive Seymour.

36A Gowlett Road, SE15.

Well, was it 3128 a spaceship?

THE appearance of a strange group of lights in the night sky over North Northumberland on Sunday, October 23 certainly caught the public's imagination.

Several theories have been put forward by witnesses covering its nature, but this still remains a mystery.

We can, however, speculate and one way to do this is to consider each theory individually, taking into account the description of the object as reported.

● A huge helicopter: The idea of a helicopter is in itself not an illogical one, although no helicopter would be likely to have so many lights, or to be as large as the UFO appeared. It is also unlikely that the lighting effect was caused by the whirling rotor blades, as the lights were clearly defined points.

● An aircraft refuelling and displaying landing lights under its wings: Refuelling aircraft have been sighted in the area

BY D. SISTERSON

several times before, but this is usually carried out at a high altitude, so the object would have appeared much smaller and the lights much dimmer. It is curious to note that none of the lights were blinking, as is normally the case with aircraft.

● A Russian reconnaissance plane, being escorted out of British airspace by two Phantom jets: Contrary to the report in the Gazette, November 4, the witness who suggested this, Karl Nattress, says that he did not actually see the engines, merely heard them. This might account for Boulmer's lack of comment — the presence of Russian military aircraft, for whatever reason, is not the sort of thing the RAF would be likely to tell the Press about. But again, there is the strange absence of any blinking lights; and why was the sound of a 'small engine' heard when the jets were not?

● Airship: There still seems to be too many lights for this, but more than one witness reported seeing an outline which would be roughly the right shape, also the engine noise would be appropriate.

The UFO was reported as passing over Amble at about 8.20 p.m. and over Alnwick at about 8.30 p.m. This would give it a speed of about 60 mph and on the speed of the object was clearly seen by observers.

This suggests a fairly low altitude, probably no more than three or four thousand feet, and therefore a size compact enough to be one body, even though relatively large.

An airship seems to fit this description. Also, Boulmer radar may not have picked it up because of the small amount of metal it contained.

I understand British radar stations had the same problem with Zeppelins in World War II.

● Spaceship: In view of the evidence, this is rather unlikely, but cannot be ruled out.

Paul's encounters of the UFO kind

3128
A SCHOOLBOY has been delving into strange happenings around Wrexham.

His investigation reveals a series of sightings of UFOs.

Paul Reed (16), of Berwyn Drive, Marchweil, Wrexham, has been fascinated by the unexplained since he discovered a book on UFOs about four years ago.

So he decided to write an article on his pet subject for his school newspaper.

And when he came to interview fellow pupils at Bryn Offa High School, Wrexham, an uncanny story unfolded.

He discovered a pattern of close encounters around Minera Mountain.

Children and their parents related stories of seeing

brightly lit objects flying through the sky hovering and disappearing.

Said Paul: "I'm not sure I believe in UFOs. I've never seen one myself. But I think it is more likely they do exist than they don't."

"I try to keep an open mind but the stories I heard suggest we are being watched by an alien force."

"Who knows why they should choose this area. Perhaps it is because this is one of the highest places around and quite deserted so the UFOnaughts run a lesser risk of being spotted while they can watch the surrounding area even from the ground."



Paul on his watch at Minera Mountain near Wrexham.

It's ³¹²⁸ official:
there
are
UFOs

OBSERVER, LONDON
MAR 4 1984

by MARTIN BAILEY

THERE are Unidentified Flying Objects. That's official: the Ministry of Defence has finally come clean.

Copies of 16 reports on sightings over Wales have been sent by the MoD to the British UFO Research Association.

If it's only a small step forward for Whitehall—which stresses that there is no suggestion they come from outer space—it's a giant leap for the hitherto-ridiculed alien craft watchers.

Until now, the Government had always refused to release details of UFO incidents passed to it. Six years ago, the Earl of Clancarty—who founded the UFO group in the House of Lords—did launch a debate, but then the government line was that it was not prepared to release information.

Now, following more pressure from the Lords, the MoD has finally relented. A ministry spokesman confirmed yesterday that the department was now willing 'to consider providing reports on specific incidents to serious inquirers.'



Looking up : Cwmbran UFO spotters Angela and David Mason and their son Paul re-enact

Photograph by BEN GIBSON
their experience.

CONT NEXT PAGE

THERE ARE UFO'S CONT

The Observer has been given a copy of the first list of 'sightings' and has looked into a typical incident which figures in the Ministry of Defence documents.

At 9 p.m. on 14 September 1982, David Mason, a 32-year-old printer, was watching television when he saw a bright light from the window of his Cwmbran home. He called his wife Angela, and together they went outside into the back garden.

Mr Mason said the light was 'as bright as the sun and about half the size of the moon.' The couple watched for 15 minutes as it hovered more than a mile away, just above a hill range that surrounds the town. The white light then sped off northwards along the ridge at speed and disappeared.

The Masons called the police and two officers arrived to record details of the UFO sighting. This was the last contact that the couple were to

have with officials over the case.

The police report into the Cwmbran incident was forwarded to the Ministry of Defence in London, where operational staff in the air division examined the case. An MoD spokesman said that following these inquiries, 'we are satisfied that there were no defence implications.'

Mr Mason says he was surprised not to have had any further inquiries from officials. 'I do not understand how the Ministry of Defence could have investigated the case without contacting me with further queries.'

Unusual cloud formations

The Cwmbran sighting is typical of the hundreds of UFO reports which reach the Ministry of Defence every year. Some incidents are reported directly by members of the public, but most come via police, airport authorities and armed forces.

Only a proportion of total British sightings filter through officialdom and ultimately reach the MoD. The numbers fluctuate considerably, and between 1978 and 1983 they

amounted yearly to 750, 550, 350, 600, 250 and 390.

Mrs Jenny Randles, investigation director of the UFO research association, said that crucial information was still missing from the government reports. The final sections, containing the results of the MoD's own investigations, had been excised.

The ministry says it is not concerned with what UFOs are — only to ensure that they do not have any 'defence implications.' In practice, this means that the main question which interests the MoD is whether they are hostile aircraft.

It emphasises that many UFO sightings could be caused by 'satellite debris, ball lightning, unusual cloud formations, balloons or aircraft.' The spokesman added: 'There is no evidence that alien spacecraft have landed on the planet.'

Other cases covered in the MoD reports include an incident on 20 September 1982 when a 'beam of green light' was seen near Abergavenny and a 'cottage-loaf shape with bright porthole lights and a pulsating red light beneath' near Caerleon.

Four sightings which were made within a couple of miles were reported on 30 September

the same year during a one-hour period. These included 'two white flashing circular objects' (Pontypool), a 'white/blue flashing light' (Pontnewydd), a 'bright blue light' (Cwmbran) and a 'narrow green band of light' (Pontypool).

Nine incidents were reported on 19 January 1983 between 5.30 and 7.45 p.m. in the Swansea area. This unusual flurry of UFO sightings included a 'very large elongated shape with two pulsating white lights at front and

yellowish steady lights at rear,' an object which was 'very large, possibly saucer-shaped, four or five lights flashing in rotation' and 'one object split into two parts—three white lights at front and three at back, massive in size, oblong in shape.'

DAILY EXPRESS
LONDON
MAR. 5 1984

Official help for the great UFO hunt

UFO watchers will soon have some official help in discovering more about those strange lights in the sky.

The Ministry of Defence's reports of unexplained phenomena are to be declassified and released to the public.

The move means a lot to the British UFO Research Association which has been fighting for access to Ministry records for years.

The association has already received details of eight sightings in South Wales but has been unable to get any help over an incident in 1980 when a large triangular object was seen in a forest near RAF Woodbridge in Suffolk leaving holes in the ground and traces of radiation.