

UFO SIGHTINGS Close encounters of the alien kind

The majority of sightings of UFOs coincided with the onset of the Cold War, with many involving 'retrievals', where wreckage or the bodies of unearthly beings were supposedly spirited away by the authorities. The most famous episodes - like the 1947 Roswell Incident, in which an autopsy of an alien was allegedly filmed - tended to occur close to military bases. Here is a catalogue of the more curious events...



1953: UFO crashes near Klingman, Arizona

1961: Silvery object crashes into Lake Onega, Siberia

1960s onwards: Discovery of 'saucer nests' in Tully similar to the British crop circles. Farmer claimed to have seen UFO lifting off from a 'nest'.

1948: UFO crash at Aztec, Colorado

1977: UFO seen hovering above high-security hangar at Aviano air base, Italy

October, 1957: Royal Air Force corporal at Maralinga nuclear test site in SA reports seeing a silver-blue object with a metallic lustre hovering over the area.

1947: Mysterious crash in New Mexico Desert at Roswell. Film evidence of secret autopsy carried out on alien

1957: Disc-shaped craft crashes in Ubatuba, Brazil

January, 1968: Faye Knowles and sons Patrick, Wayne and Sean claim they were attacked by a UFO on the Nullarbor Plain. An egg-shaped object landed on the roof of their car and shook it around before lifting it and dropping it.

1965: First UFO ever photographed from the air near Mendoza, in the Andes

1969: Ships detect UFO by radar. 'Object' then tracked by South African Air Force Mirage jets north of Johannesburg

October, 1978: Pilot Frederick Valentich disappears over Bass Strait after reporting a long-shaped object with four lights hovering above his aircraft.

A REDISCOVERED film said to prove aliens exist will be screened on television tomorrow.

Some UFO followers believe the grainy black and white footage of an alien being dissected 48 years ago is genuine.

The film, *The Roswell Incident: Aliens Revealed?*, to be shown on Channel 9 at 7.30pm, was shown to the British public last week.

Delegates to the British UFO Research Association conference, in Sheffield, argued about whether the film provided final proof an alien spacecraft crashed in New Mexico in 1947.

More than 1000 watched the film, which purported to show a humanoid female creature with reptilian eyes being dissected by scientists.

The film was allegedly bought from an ageing former military cameraman by British music video maker Ray Santilli, who claims the film is not a hoax. The cameraman told

Film deepens aliens puzzle

By NEIL MELLOU

Santilli he shot the footage after an alien spacecraft crashed into the desert near Roswell, New Mexico.

The film, which has divided UFO experts, appears to show that the creature, which was one of five, had a huge hairless head, with a face dominated by large lizard-like eyes.

It had six fingers or toes on each hand or foot.

The Roswell Incident occurred at the start of the Cold War when unidentified Flying Object sightings began.

On July 4, 1947, a crash was reported in Roswell near the 509th Bomber Group air base which then held the world's only nuclear strike force.

It was reported authorities had found the wreckage of a flying disc, but this was later changed to "wreckage of a weather balloon".

But in 1978, an officer who investigated the crash claimed there had been a cover-up.

Since then, theories have been suggested it was an alien spacecraft that crashed.

In the film, which is supposed to prove it was a UFO at Roswell, sur-

geons in radiation suits cut open the "alien's" chest to reveal a pulpy mass of internal organs.

They also remove the lens from the eyes, peel away the scalp, saw through the skull and remove a gelatinous brain.

Both the US space agency NASA and filmmaker Kodak have been commissioned to study the footage.

Their findings will also be announced tomorrow when the film is shown in several countries.

The documentary features interviews with Roswell residents and military personnel and their relatives.