

NEWS front

At 3am on December 27, 1980, a report was received of bright lights in a forest bordering a military airbase. Three US servicemen went to investigate. What they found would change their lives forever. It would also convince many that alien life exists. **ADRIAN TAME** opens the Rendlesham files

We have contact!

HAVE we had it wrong, all along, about the phenomena of Unidentified Flying Objects? Could it be that these alien invaders are not from outer space after all, but from our future?

Jim Penniston knows how ridiculous it sounds, but he is in a better position to say than most. During the second of the world's two officially recognised UFO sightings, he made physical contact with a triangular-shaped spacecraft which landed in a remote forest in southern England 20 years ago.

After 14 years of nightmares and other problems linked to post-traumatic stress, the USAF staff sergeant agreed to two sessions of video-taped hypnosis by a psychologist.

During the second of these, Penniston began to talk about visitors from our future, a world of darkness and pollution faced with major problems of survival, particularly reproduction.

Still under hypnosis, Penniston

went on to explain the "visitors" were here to target specific individuals of both sexes, to remove sperm and eggs from them to take back to the future.

If all of this sounds suspiciously like the twisted imaginings of an amateur sci-fi enthusiast, Penniston's background and the events surrounding his "contact" suggest otherwise.

Unexplained lights in the sky, saucer-shaped objects and little green men have for centuries left mankind agonising over the filmey evidence of alien invasion.

Great civilisations such as those of the Incas and the Egyptians have suspected there may be something or someone out there watching us.

In more recent times organisations have been formed around the world charting the I-phenomena; their periodicals and books carrying alleged photographs and artists' impressions of visitors from outer space.

But only two sightings have

received official recognition from governments and the military. The first of these happened in a little town called Roswell in New Mexico, US, in July 1947, when a UFO is said to have crashed, scattering alien bodies and debris over a wide area.

OFFICIALDOM confirms something landed in the desert outside Roswell that night, but stories, and even photographs, of the bodies being removed to a top-secret military site have been consistently denied by authorities.

Which makes Penniston's sighting, at Rendlesham Forest in southern England, in December, 1980, all the more remarkable.

Not only have British and American police, the military and defence department personnel acknowledged the landing, official documentation has been released, and US Air Force eyewitnesses, including Penniston, have talked openly about the incident.