

# VICTORIA'S X-FILES

TOP  
SECRET

## Unclassified documents reveal UFO sightings

ADRIAN TAME

**V**ICTORIA'S own X-files, describing hundreds of UFO sightings and official cover-ups, have emerged from a batch of recently declassified secret government documents.

Australian UFO Research Centre investigator Dominic McNamara has spent two years uncovering restricted files from the Federal Government's top secret archives.

Once stamped "classified", the files reveal about 1200 sightings across Australia between 1950 and 1975, 200 of them in Victoria.

Witnesses range from air traffic controllers at Melbourne Airport to RAAF servicemen and members of the public.

Mr McNamara says he and his organisation believe there may be as many as another 200 reports of sightings the Government is not prepared to release.

"We had tremendous difficulty getting access to the files we did see," he said.

"We did the search under the Archives Act of 1983, which entitles the public access to material that is 30 years old.

"At one stage, they rolled out a trolley containing six or seven archive boxes, each one containing a pile of manilla folders. Each folder had about 50 pages of names of files. We are pretty certain there are other reports of sightings the Government doesn't want us to know about, probably about 200.

"We found material marked, 'Not to be placed in UFO files', which makes us believe there is material that was either never placed in the files, or has been removed from them.

"There is a level of security which is not for our eyes, that is not meant to be unearthed."

Mr McNamara said there was too much evidence from the files to discount the possibility of alien life.

He said many sightings were made around the time of rocket launches or nuclear tests, indicating such activity had attracted the attentions of extraterrestrials.

Mr McNamara appealed to anybody with UFO sighting information to contact his organisation's free phone number, 1800 772288.

All measurements included in the following case histories are pre-metric and have been left unchanged for authenticity.

**CASE 1** Janette Brown, 16, and her friend Jeanette Johnson, 13, were waiting for a bus near their homes on the Princes Highway, East Dandenong, on June 5, 1954, when they heard a mysterious humming noise.

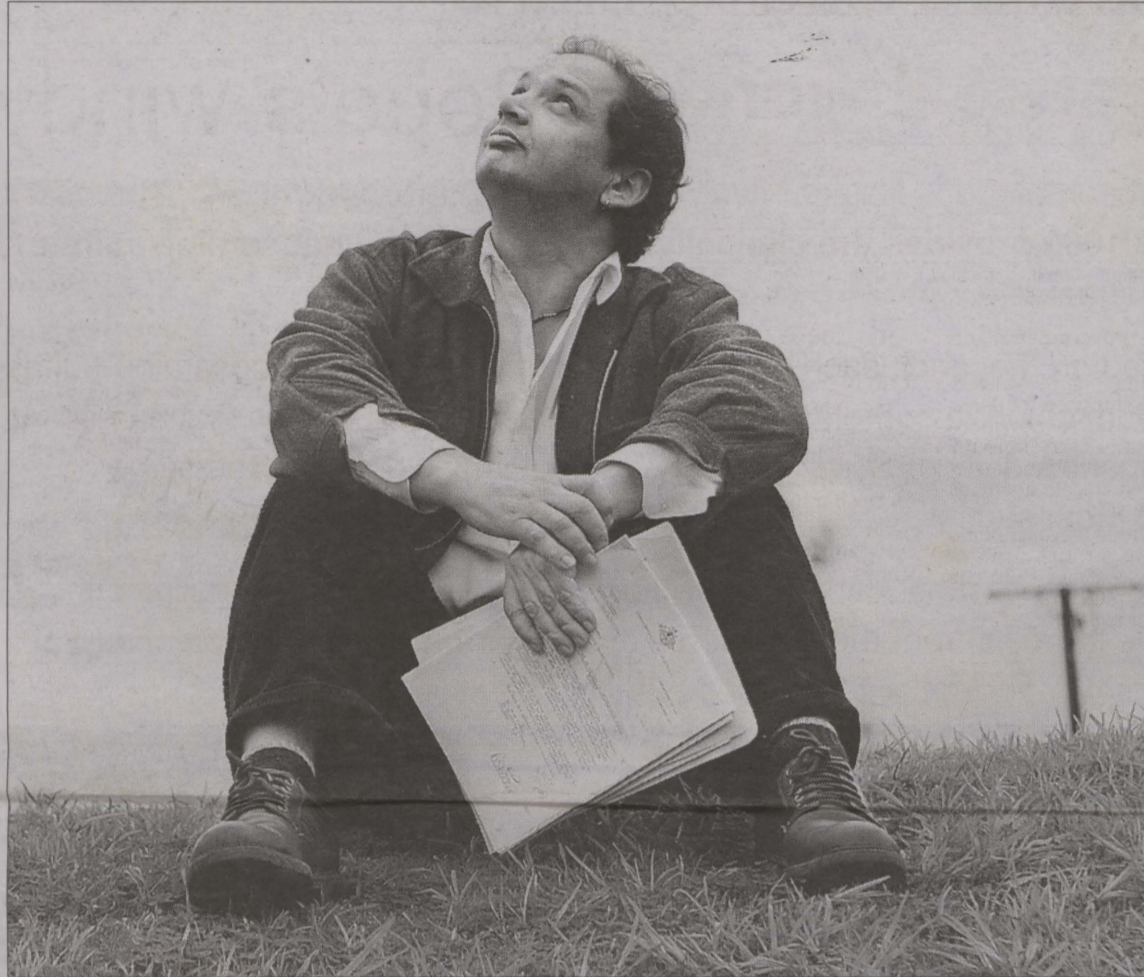
The sound changed abruptly to the noise of a motorcycle engine, but nothing was visible on the road for a mile in each direction.

Then, 200 yards away, an object appeared in the sky with a white light on its front end. The object moved directly towards the girls, and the light turned yellow.

By the time the object was 150 yards away, it had become a luminous silver grey with two more yellow lights. Then the humming stopped and became "a soft, resonant clanging".

By now the 40-foot-wide object was only 25 yards away and had descended to 15 feet, revealing a circular base with three revolving wheels beneath it. The clanging had increased in frequency.

Janette Brown felt the object was



**Alien alert:** Dominic McNamara with intelligence files of UFO sightings. Picture: MARK BRAKE

attracted towards her. She had a "ghostly feeling" it was observing her closely. She noticed later her watch had stopped at the time of the sighting.

A series of connected events happened during the next few days.

Firstly, neighbours reported severe radio interference at the time of the sighting.

Then, on June 15, Victorian Mines Department geologist Peter Kenley found evidence, including magnetised iron poles on a nearby fence, of an intense magnetic field in the area of the sighting.

On June 21, Janette and her brother John observed hundreds of tear-shaped white lights descending into a paddock in the same area where Janette saw a head and a dark body about two feet long with "grasshopper-like" legs.

Government experts evaluating the sightings described the Brown siblings as "impressible but completely genuine".

**CASE 2** RAAF air apprentice Rahmat Ullah Khan was so terrified by what he saw while on night-guard duty at the RAAF School of Radio at Ballarat that he tried to shoot it.

Then he sank to the floor of the sentry box he was occupying, remaining there for several hours until dawn.

Mr Khan's experience happened at 3am on October 4, 1954, when he saw an object approaching silently in the sky at a speed he estimated at about 1000 miles an hour.

"It was almost directly above me and it descended to about 200 feet," he wrote in his report.

"I got frightened and I pulled my trigger, but having no ammunition, nothing happened."

The object had bright red and

yellow lights, and was round with a flat bottom and curved top.

Eventually it travelled back the way it had come and disappeared.

All later efforts by authorities to shake Mr Khan's story failed.

**CASE 3** Air traffic controllers are trained to watch the sky carefully and are not prone to flights of fancy.

So when four ATCs reported a UFO sighting at Melbourne Airport, the authorities took notice. The incident happened on the

morning of August 19, 1957, when the control tower was alerted to something unusual in the sky by a phone call from an airport employee. The four ATCs — F.R. Soden, of North Balwyn, N.T. Burge of Glenroy, I.C. Lewitzka, of Kew, and G.E. Fletcher, of Essendon — all observed a stationary, globe-shaped, silvery object for up to five minutes. Their radar equipment was unable to pick up any signal from the object, which disappeared as quickly and as silently as it came.

**CASE 4** Retired colonel W.M. Algie, late of the Australian Staff Corps, was on the veranda of his Caulfield home when, "Suddenly a very bright flash appeared in the sky directly above Mt Dandenong".

An unusually accurate observer, he estimated the UFO's speed at 250 miles per minute as it travelled silently towards him in a straight line. It was the night of January 16, 1962.

The cigar-shaped object was about 15-feet long, with a reddish tail trailing behind it.

Colonel Algie reported: "The nose of the object had cowering around its circumference with about six or eight flames coming off it. The flames tapered to greenish points as they danced and twisted to form what I can best describe as a fiery, tossing mane around the front of the object."

He discussed the sighting with his neighbours, one of whom, "a most reliable widow", reported seeing something exactly the same two months earlier.

**CASE 5** Farmer Charles Brew was milking his cows early in the morning of February 15, 1963, at Willow Grove, near Moe in Gippsland, when he spotted an object in the sky hurtling towards him. When it reached a height of about 75 feet, the object stopped, hovered for a brief period and accelerated away again. The structure was about 25 feet in diameter and 9 feet high. The lower section was rotating in an anti-clockwise direction and was blue in colour. The upper section was stationary, battleship grey and had a transparent dome.

"Protruding out of this dome was something which resembled a broom handle," said Mr Brew in his report of the sighting. "It looked like a flying merry-go-round and there was a swishing and burbling-type sound."

Official reports concluded the object was probably a tornado. If so, it must have been a minor one — no damage was reported along its path.