

# The day a giant 'serpent' hissed through the skies

## June Moore reports on some spectacular UFO sightings before the century.

Whenever you believe in UFOs or not it is generally up to you. If you are a skeptic, you can take Mr. Butler's policy of lying low and saying nothing until the boundaries of science have been pushed back a bit more. It may come as an uncomfortable shock to discover that UFO sightings are not exclusive to the twentieth century.

Only fifteen years ago, we were teasing people who have never seen UFOs as hoaxes or dreams or臆病 or those long avocados for the psychiatrist's couch. Dickens gave all sorts of down to earth reasons for the sightings and what he suggested would be a "serpent" could never gain a meter.

However, the nineteenth century was quite rich in its own sightings of what we call "UFO" sightings. There was of an eight foot long object flying 6000 above Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on the night of April 5, 1800. It radiated light and heat and was seen by a crowd of that of the sun and other followed an explosion and an earth tremor from an area where trees were later found charred and twisted.

This was although it is a much better version of a "serpent" which exploded over Salses on June 30, 1908, with

such force that it destroyed a herd of animals, roped up eight million trees and bent a stick three times round the world.

"Most have been a snake," Mr. Moore says. "Mr. Moore, you chose a snake. Maybe. But consider the case of the sightings which were prolonged and many, of which with motors and wings were seen in the skies, man had not yet invented the airplane. Yet on April 5, 1887, hundreds of people in Omaha watched a brightly shining object, which was not a meteor, falling to earth at about 4,000 ft. Flying against the wind until it disappeared into the clouds. Many of such sightings were reported throughout the USA in 1888 and 1887.

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assembled head - and vanished.

On July 17, 1806, in daylight, the people of London saw an object flying rapidly across the sky, showing brightly and shooting sparks. Four months later, a similar object was seen over Swireast.

### Green men

Though the modern day sightings of UFOs describe different shapes, they are not so different from those which apparently blazed across the sky in front of our ancestors. Fresh shapes, some shapes or cigar shapes are quite common. Many of such sightings were reported throughout the USA in 1888 and 1887.

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appeared in every conceivable shape, which may be far enough for progress and evolution but can play havoc with the minds of anyone watching from down here.

Here are a few examples of the shapes that were seen and they name only a few. There was a thing like a rectangular luminous body over Niagara Falls in 1832, a disc with a tail over the Atlantic in 1870, a triangular shape which was seen in the sky over Florida in 1855. There is something to do with the mysteries of the Bermuda Triangle.

Then, in 1880, over Louisiana and Mississippi, a complicated object in machinery with a sphere at each end, appeared.

Frank, there is the case of Alexander Hamilton, a former Congressman and much respected by neighbors and officers as a man of integrity. As even the report which at the time was in a whole I. Hamilton, a former Congressman and much respected by neighbors and officers as a man of integrity. As even the report which at the time was in a whole I.

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craft, only thirty-foot above them, they were astonished to see, in the brilliant light of the sun, strange beings whom they could hear speaking in their own language. The planes were the farmer and took off.

### Unknown language

However, if you feel more inclined to take the word of those trustworthy astronomers, you can choose between these plans.

In 1883, Mexican astronomer Dr. Jose Siquiera reported that on September 23, 1855, over a period of two hours, 263 objects like flying spheres moved at various speeds and, near, 48 topside-like objects gliding through the sky.

On July 29, 1878, astronomer James C. Watson and Lewis Swift were observing a total eclipse of the sun. They saw two disc-shaped objects, each about half a mile across and at a height of 20,000 miles.

If UFOs are a reality, a possibility for them is that they were moving around in the sky before man had invented planes of any kind. Some terrestrial eyes have been looking for centuries coming to grips with the uncomfortable feeling that something was long before man was approaching the



This UFO was photographed near Albuquerque in New Mexico.