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(CARDWFF)

# Welsh 'Roswell' defies explanation

IT was the historic UFO sighting dubbed the "Welsh Roswell".

Locals heard a huge bang and saw a brilliant light in the sky, but Ministry of Defence files say the incident in 1974 was just a combination of an earthquake and a meteor.

Now a new book claims a key element of the events remains unexplained.

In UFO Down? The Berwyn Mountain UFO Crash, author Andy Roberts claims the authorities still cannot account for nurse Pat Evans' description of a glowing object she saw in the North Wales mountain range.

Mrs Evans broke her long-standing silence on the issue earlier this month, when she called the official account "rubbish".

The retired nurse, 72, told how on January 23, 1974, she and her two daughters, then aged 14 and 15, saw a "huge ball glowing and pulsating on the mountain" with "some lights scattered around it".

The illuminations scattered around the main object were like fairy or torch lights, she said.

Mr Roberts, who has written widely about UFOs, said: "It was too big to have been a meteor and if it had been a meteor that had landed, it then becomes a meteorite.

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## NEW BOOK SHEDS LIGHT ON ALLEGED UFO SIGHTING

"But what she saw was on the ground - it wasn't in the air. What she said she saw was almost the size of a full moon.

"That's huge and even if a meteorite had come to Earth it would only glow and she wouldn't see it that size.

"So it's certain that what Pat saw is as yet unexplained. And we know that what Pat says she saw was what she did see because she recorded it with the seismologist two days after the event."

The original Roswell incident was the alleged recovery of alien debris, including corpses, from an object that crashed in New Mexico in 1947. Conspiracy theorists have alleged a government cover-up ever since.

In 1974, a search and rescue team from RAF Valley on Anglesey was scrambled on the night to look for wreckage on the mountainside, but found nothing.

Government inquiries un-



■ The Berwyn mountain, scene of an alleged UFO sighting in 1974

PICTURE: Robert Parry Jones

covered five other reports of UFOs over the UK at about 10pm on January 23 - three in the Home Counties, one in Lincolnshire and one in Sussex.

In his book, Mr Roberts, from Flintshire, details how Mrs Evans told friends she also saw a group of vehicle lights congregating on the other side of the valley.

Mrs Evans, from Llandderfel, near Bala, Gwynedd, believed it was such a remote spot that it must have been a team of people who knew exactly what was going on, as locals would not have been able to get there so quickly.

After hearing the bang Mrs Evans had driven up the mountain with her two daughters,

believing a plane had come down and she could use her nursing skills to help.

She returned after spending about 15 minutes watching the "moon-shaped" object change colour from yellow to white and back again several times.

But in his book Mr Roberts points to inconsistencies in Mrs Evans' recollection of the exact

location. Following an interview with Mrs Evans in the mid-1990s, "ufologist" Margaret Fry produced a drawing which put the object on Moel Sych at the southwestern end of the Berwyn range.

Mrs Evans told the ufologist the object was two to three miles away, but in 1998 she informed Mr Roberts it was between half a mile and a mile away.

Mr Roberts also recalls her pointing "much further to the left than the location given to Margaret Fry".

He concludes "several factors" may have made the light appear larger than it was, including Mrs Evans' expectation that she was visiting the scene of an aircraft disaster.

He writes: "Pat was looking out across a huge area of dark and featureless landscape with no points of reference other than what she believed was vehicle and torch lights.

"Nonetheless we must accept that whatever Pat and her daughters were observing was a bright, self-contained light that appeared much bigger than torch or vehicle lights."

■ Published by Fortean Words, UFO Down? The Berwyn Mountain UFO Crash is available now, priced £8.99