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# How Edwards found himself under siege from UFO reports

FORMER Welsh Secretary Nicholas Edwards was “inundated” with reports of UFO sightings amid speculation West Wales was a hot-spot for extraterrestrial activity, according to National Archives documents released today.

Sightings of mysterious flying objects were so common in the late 1970s that the region was compared to the Bermuda Triangle.

In 1977, the proprietor of a Pembrokeshire hotel told an investigator she saw a dome-shaped object land “like the moon falling down” behind her establishment.

She reported seeing two tall silver-suited “faceless humanoids” emerge and begin “take measurements”.

She wrote to Pembrokeshire MP Mr Edwards, telling him she was left “agitated and disturbed and not the least bit desirous of another encounter”.

The MP told the Ministry of Defence he was “inundated” with reports and an officer from RAF Brawdy, near St David’s, was sent to interview the wo-



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## FILES SHOW WELSH SECRETARY TOLD OF SILVER-SUITED ALIENS

man. The officer, whose name is censored, said there were so many UFO reports, the area was now known as the “Broad Haven Triangle.”

He noted there was a “high level of flying activity but suggested a “local prankster” could be at work.

He said in his report to the MoD: “I’m unable to offer any explanation other than above, but should a UFO arrive at RAF Brawdy we will charge normal landing fees and inform you immediately!”

A further note stated that “RAF Brawdy had received other inquiries about men in silver suits and it is perhaps not irrelevant that a local factory manufactures protective clothing of this type for the oil in-

stallation at Milford Haven.”

One of these “silver suits” was also on display in a shop at Brawdy village.

Mr Edwards was told in a letter from the Ministry of Defence there was no evidence of “anything of significance from a defence point of view”.

The files also contain a letter from an unnamed individual who was walking a “Portuguese mountain dog” with a cousin at Rhossili Bay, Gower, on a cloudless night in September 2005 when a silent object with “stubby swept-back wings” and a marble-like surface flew overhead.

The author suggested it could be an American, Russian or Chinese aircraft, stating: “Please do not dismiss this sighting as

the ramblings of yet another crank, of which I imagine you come across a large number each year.”

The archives also contain an account received by police in Ebbw Vale from a motorist, employed in the funeral business, who saw a “tube of light” coming out of the sky on January 27, 1997.

The report states his car radio and mobile phone failed, and he subsequently became ill and suffered from a skin complaint.

Yet another report cites a sighting in Beddau, Pontypridd, of an object that was “shiny, silvery, cigar-shaped” and “very long”.

The 25 files released today contain more than 6,700 pages.

Among the files is a 1995 briefing which argues that if aliens are visiting our planet, they may be on holiday.

It states: “There has been no apparently hostile intent and other [possible reasons for the visits] are: a) military reconnaissance, b) scientific, c) tourism.”

In 2007, the MoD was con-

tacted by someone who saw lights in the sky – understood to be Chinese lanterns – above Houghton-le-Spring in County Durham.

He did not think these were extraterrestrials because he did not believe aliens would want to visit Houghton.

In a briefing prepared ahead of a House of Lords UFO debate, an intelligence officer asked why aliens would want to visit “an insignificant planet (the Earth) of an uninteresting star (the sun).”

When the US Air Force asked about the UK’s UFO policy, the Ministry of Defence stated it was our policy to “play down the subject and to avoid attaching undue attention to it”.

David Clarke, a lecturer in journalism at Sheffield Hallam University and author of the UFO Files, said: “We now have a fascinating insight into some of the extraordinary reports and briefings which passed over the UFO Desk on a daily basis and how its officers used logic and science in their attempts to explain ‘the unexplained.’”