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Re: Book: 'Left at East Gate'??

From: James Easton <pulsar@compuserve.com>
Date: Sun, 27 Apr 1997 17:12:00 -0400
Fwd Date: Sun, 27 Apr 1997 21:40:02 -0400
Subject: Re: Book: 'Left at East Gate'??

Larry Warren has given some interviews which may not be familiar to those outside the UK and which do help place his story in perspective.

One such interview was published in the Spring 1995 (Vol 40, No. 1) issue of "Flying Saucer Review".

He begins, "I arrived at RAF Bentwaters in England on December 1st 1980.

We had the largest nuclear arms dump in all of NATO; it was split between the two bases. I knew that just one of our nuclear weapons could have removed East Anglia with no problem!

[Both RAF Bentwaters and RAF Woodbridge are now closed - James.]

On the night of 26th/27th December, 1980, a police patrol observed lights in Rendlesham Forest. The three airmen involved disappeared for several hours...".

The date could actually have been the night of 25th/26th December, but that aside, the three airmen were Sergeant Jim Penniston, Airman John Burroughs and it seems, Kavanasac.

In the "Strange But True?" documentary, Burroughs who, with an unnamed colleague which may have been Kavanasac, was on security patrol at the Woodbridge base, near the east gate, recalled, "There were strange lights out in the forest. To me, it almost looked like Christmas lights at first, a Christmas display. At that point we looked at each other and we decided that we'd better go out and take a closer look 'cause we weren't sure what we were dealing with".

Burrows and his colleague went back to the gate house and contacted the Security Controller.

"Tom", our apparent new witness to some of the events, has named a person whom he refers to as "Central Security Controller".

Burrows continued, "He had a lot of trouble believing what I was telling him, because it was Christmas and I had played a lot of jokes on him before".

Eventually persuaded, the Security Controller contacted Sergeant Jim Penniston.

Penniston takes up the story. "I received a call from the Control Centre to go on down to the east gate and contact John Burroughs. And I asked them what was the nature of the problem down there and they said that they'd rather not tell me, they'd rather have me go down there and talk to the patrol man on the scene.

The first thing that came to mind was an aircraft crash. I've had at

least 30 or 40 crashes that I had been to at that point in time and that's definitely what I thought it was".

Having contacted the Control Centre again and reported a possible aircraft crash, Penniston states, "They notified me that they were tracking an unidentified bogey about 15 minutes ago and they confirmed it with contact with eastern radar and Heathrow in London and the approximate location was about 5 miles off base when they lost contact with it.

It was Christmas time and there was no scheduled flying for that night. I got permission to proceed off base to investigate".

In the documentary, the narrative claims that, "Following military rules, the Americans had to leave their weapons behind".

Now in the forest, Penniston recalls, "I started to see a defined shape and at that point I realised it wasn't an aircraft crash, a fire, or anything of that sort.

The air was filled with electricity. You could feel it on your skin as we approached the object".

Burroughs adds, "You felt like you were moving in slow motion, your hair on the back of your head was standing up, you felt like you had very little control over your body".

An unidentifiable object was then seen.

"I wish I had my weapon because I felt totally defenseless", said Burroughs.

Penniston describes the object; "It was about the size of a tank, it was triangular in shape. Underneath the craft, was a high intensity white light emanating out of it and it was bordered by red and blue lighting, alternating".

With the object stationary, they decided to take a closer look.

"On the upper left side of the craft, was an inscription. It measured six inches high, of symbols. They looked familiar, but I couldn't ascertain why", Penniston describes further.

They apparently watched the object for some 20 minutes. Suddenly, it was no longer stationary.

According to Penniston, "It slowly started moving back, weaving in and around the trees. It got about 40 feet away, then it raised up into the air and it shot off as fast as you could blink".

Lieutenant-Colonel Halt has confirmed his apparent recollection of these events. One detailed account he gave was an interview published in the April 1994 issue of OMNI magazine. In this, he states, "Around New Year's Eve, I took statements and interviewed the men who had taken part in the initial incident. Basically, they reported this: In the early morning hours of December 26th [there's that confirmation again - James], one of the airmen drove to the back gate at Woodbridge on a routine security check. He saw lights in the forest, specifically a red light, and thought maybe an airplane had crashed. He radioed a report, which was called into the tower, but the tower reported nobody was flying.

Eventually, a group headed out to the forest. They reported strange noises - animals, movement, like we heard two nights later.

As they approached the clearing, they reported seeing a large yellowish-white light with a blinking red light on the upper center portion and a steady blue light emanating from underneath. The tower again reported nothing on radar.

A few of the men moved to within 20 or 30 feet. Each said the same thing independently - a triangular-shaped metallic object, about nine feet across the base, six feet high, appeared to be sitting on a tripod. They split up, walked around the craft. One of the men apparently tried to get on the craft, but, they said, it levitated up".

In the lecture given at Leeds on 31 July 1994, Halt clarified further, "Penniston, Burroughs and Kavanasc hit the ground. Penniston said

Burroughs tried to get on the object".

Returning to the interview published in OMNI; "All three of the guys hit the ground as the craft moved quickly in a zigzagging manner through the woods toward the field, hitting some trees on the way.

They got up and approached again, but the object rose up, and then it disappeared at great speed.

Finally, on January 13, 1981, I wrote a memo to the British Ministry of Defense. Despite my efforts, to my knowledge, no one from any intelligence or government agency ever came on base to investigate".

Halt explains further, "I have never sought the limelight, nor have I hidden. I stand to receive no financial benefit from this interview but consented because it's time the truth came out. I don't know what those objects were. I don't know anybody who does. But something as yet unexplained happened out there".

Now returning to Larry Warren's story, so far, his claims that, "On the night of 26th/27th December, 1980, a police patrol observed lights in Rendlesham Forest. The three airmen involved disappeared for several hours...", are relatively consistent.

However, he continues the sentence, "and according to two of them, they had been abducted".

Warren's story immediately seems to lose credibility. When have either Burroughs, Penniston or Kavanasac ever claimed they were "abducted"?

Speaking of his own experiences on the supposed third night, which he dates "28/29 December", Warren states, "That's when I became involved. Our security group was called out, we boarded our military pick-up trucks, and entered Rendlesham Forest".

Warren's account of his experiences appears to be a hotchpotch of other stories.

For example, speaking of events he allegedly observed in the open field, known as Capel Green, he claims, "Suddenly, in place of the mist, there was a more solid looking object".

Importantly, he affirms, "At this point Sgt. Bustinza, myself, a disaster-preparedness man, and my shift commander, were ordered to move in on this object".

Furthermore, "Shortly afterwards, we were ordered back to our original position. At that point the whole object was surrounded by our security police at intervals of about ten feet" and "two British 'bobbies' [policemen] were still taking pictures, but then I saw their cameras taken away from them".

Bustinza came forward as a witness following the publication of "Sky Crash", co-authored by Jenny Randles, Brenda Butler and Dot Street, and, I believe, the first book to be published on the case.

According to Timothy Good, in "Above Top Secret", on 15 April 1984, Bustinza related his version of events to American researchers Ray Boeche and Scott Colborn. His account, detailed in the book, relates solely to events in Rendlesham forest and which involved, amongst others, Halt, Sergeant Ball, Lieutenant Bruce Englund and himself. This was when the tape recording was apparently made.

He claims that those present were ordered to form a perimeter, at some 15 feet intervals, around an object viewed in the forest and also that later there were two 'bobbies' present who had taken some film, which Halt ordered to be confiscated.

Also apparently present with Halt, Bustinza and the others was Sergeant Nevells, the non-commissioned officer assigned to the Disaster Preparedness Operations.

Warren seems to have taken all of this - the presence of Bustinza, a "disaster-preparedness man", being ordered to move in on the object, surrounding the object at fixed intervals, the two policemen who had

their film confiscated, and transported it all to a different location!

Let's be quite clear about this, Warren's supposed encounter at Capel Green was an entirely separate event from that which took place in the forest. As Warren confirmed when interviewed for the "Network First" U.K. TV documentary, broadcast in January, 1995, "I'm standing in Rendlesham Forest, where on December 28th to 29th, 1980, just behind me, Colonel Halt and a group of NCO's and officers had their sighting of events which is recorded on the tape that he made that night, about a quarter mile that way.

My event took place right here, heading toward this farmer's field".

Bustinza refutes Warren's claims that he [Bustinza] was part of the same group which were taken by truck to Capel Green.

In turn, Halt refutes Bustinza's claim that film was confiscated. Timothy Good writes that during October, 1986, he spoke with Halt and was told, "That's not true. I suspect time has clouded his memory. I confiscated nothing from anyone - I had no authority to. We were guests in your country. I can tell you that your bobbies wouldn't probably have given them to me if I'd asked".

There's no obvious reason why the British police force would be invited to participate in the events which Warren describes at Capel Green and that's obviously a precept which applies to Warren himself.

Adding to the confusion, he states, "According to other witnesses, a smaller triangular object appeared after I was gone. It was so small that one of the personnel grabbed the object by putting his arms around it. The object then moved about ten metres with him holding on to it".

This would appear to be a story based on Burroughs' adventures at a different location and on a previous night.

In her recent, and highly recommended, book "UFO Retrievals" [ISBN: 0-7137-2493-5] Jenny Randles reviews the case and notes that Warren initially described an "aspirin" [tablet] shaped object and did not refer to any aliens appearing until after he was hypnotically regressed by Dr Fred Max.

If Larry Warren did have any involvement in events at the time, and that remains questionable, the value of any evidence he had to offer looks to have been lost in a jumble of confusion.

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