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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: Major UFO Alert in UK?

From: **Andy Roberts** <101322.751@CompuServe.COM>
Date: 27 Mar 97 12:07:20 EST
Fwd Date: Thu, 27 Mar 1997 13:34:55 -0500
Subject: Re: Major UFO Alert in UK?

Further to Graham Birdsall's post on this subject:

Despite almost two days of searching remote moorland police and mountain rescue services found nothing, despite over fifty people now having reported what appeared to be either a 'plane in trouble, a large white light, an explosion and a huge glow.

The event took place at approx. 22.06 on Monday evening and within minutes the services were out searching for a presumed crashed plane. Since Monday other witnesses have reported seeing a 'UFO' at this exact time in this area, whilst others have stuck to the more traditional 'plane on fire'.

An amateur video was taken at allegedly this time of what Detectives say *is* a small fixed wing 'plane in trouble. This is to be screened on local TV news either Thursday or Friday. Graham Birdsall has already seen this so may be able to comment better. The local press have been having a filed day and linking it to sightings of 'ghost' WW11 bombers which have been seen in the area on numerous occasions (the moors here are littered with wrecks of bombers), and the UK National Press have article planned for the weekend, notably the Mail on Saturday and the Sunday Express.

Dave Clarke in Sheffield has been liaising closely with police and mountain rescue leaders, who say that *nothing* was legitimately in the skies over the north Peak District at that time. Obviously if this was some secret military activity we would not know anyway. The police admit to being baffled and are considering all and any possibilities - just as they did in the 1970s in this area when it was plagued by a 'phantom' helicopter which needless to say was never identified.

Anyway, following reports that a 'boom' was heard we checked with the Seismic Unit at Edinburgh University and lo and behold at 22.06 that night they registered a sonic boom which, they say, could only have been caused by a) Concorde, b) a military airplane turning at low altitude or c) a bolide meteor. a and b seem to be out of the question and c seems like a good description of what many people claim to have seen and misinterpreted. This however does not explain the video of a 'plane which shouldn't be there!

The Royal Astronomical Society's Bolide Meteor expert, Howard Miles, was of the opinion that it could well have been a bolide but he had no reports from that evening.

We have also spoke to another witness who observed a hovering light projecting beams of light down on to Majorie Hill (the apparent centre of the sighting area) at approximately the same time and from a different direction to most of the Sheffield witnesses. This *appears* to fix the phenomena firmly in one spot. We have numerous witnesses to interview over the coming weeks and we predict this story will be one of the biggest in the UK this year. It has many parallels with the Berwyn Mountains (Wales) event of 1974 which has suddenlt attained fame in this country as a crash/retrieval -but which seems to have prosaic origins. This case may well be similar. It should be borne in mind that on the night of the event it was crystal clear (itself a rarity in those parts) and a great many people were out looking at the skies in a Hale-Bopp sensitized state. Thinking with my psycho-social hat on it could all be construed as a bolide meteor and other astronomical events (such as the Virginids meteors which have been out in force) which have been misperceived and is slowly but surely turning into a UFO flap. On the other hand it could be something far stranger. As I write I've just heard from some witnesses who claim to have seen triangular UFOs in the area at that time! We'll keep you posted.....

Andy (and Dave)

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