

UFO NEWS FILE



Number 2

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IF THE extra-terrestrials, with all their intelligence, had given just a single thought to the mess they were going to leave behind, they would never have picked Gulf Breeze for their visit.

Gulf Breeze, Florida, is small-town America. The sort of place where they have high-school parades and the best food restaurant is called Western Sizzlin'. Until recently it was comfortably ignored by the rest of the country. Not any more. For three years now Gulf Breeze has been the talk of America.

It all started on 11 November 1987 with Ed Walters, the local builder. Ed is a pillar of the local community. He has a nice house, a swimming pool, several cars and a basketball hoop on the garage, which is as good as having a plaque saying "Here lives the clean-living, God-fearing backbone of America".

His wife, Frances, is very big in the Parent Teachers Association and they have two teenage children and a dog.

On that evening in November Ed was in his office at the front of the house. He looked out and claims he saw an unusual glow.

"I could tell this glowing, bluish-grey craft was like none I had ever seen before. This was runt out of a Spielberg movie that had somehow escaped from

That's enough Martians—Ed

Ed Walters just wanted a quiet life in small-time America. The extra-terrestrials had other ideas. JOHN PASSMORE reports

the film studio. It was impossible, but there it was glowing and gliding about like a cloud."

His first thought was to call the police and his second was that no Gulf Breeze deputy was going to believe a word of this. He grabbed his Polaroid camera and took a photo.

It is there in the book, slightly blurred but apparently a spaceship like a flattened sphere with a small light on the top, a big glowing "power source" at the bottom and protruding all the way round.

Ed was marvelling at the eerie silence when: "Bang! Something hit me. All over my body. I tried to lift my arms to point the camera. I couldn't move them. They

were blue. I was blue. Everything was blue. I was in a blue light beam, compressing me just enough to stop me moving."

"Then my feet lifted off the ground. I screamed. A voice growled in my head: 'We will not harm you... calm down.'"

But instead, hardly able to breathe, he kept on screaming and yelling. "Put me down."

In the end they did and that was how the picture of their space ship appeared on the front page of the Gulf Breeze Sentinel.

It was, without exaggeration, the biggest story the paper had ever had.

It was also the beginning of a series of sightings from motorists, married couples, waitresses,

fishermen and even the local minister. Eventually things got to the point where every single citizen of Gulf Breeze had either seen a UFO themselves or knew someone who had.

UFO watchers from across the country docked into town. Ed Walters was trying to remain anonymous—he had this theory that if his customers heard he had been seeing flying saucers they might prefer to have their houses built by someone sane—but he was besieged by journalists.

A publisher offered him a six figure advance for a book. Western Sizzlin' started selling UFO-burgers.

It went wrong. Over the next few weeks the space ship kept re-appearing. Ed went on photographing it and then a voice in his head told him: "Step forward, we will bring you aboard."

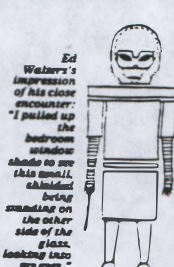
Ed, being the kind of American he is, did not take kindly to being ordered about—especially

by foreigners. "No way. What gives you the right to suck people up into your ship against their will?"

By December, Ed had had enough. When he woke up in the middle of the night knowing "they" were back, he grabbed his gun and looked out: "On the other side of the glass was a small creature. Big black eyes stared into mine. Just inches separated us. I screamed and fell backward onto the floor."

"The creature just stood there, staring at me. It was maybe four feet tall. A dark, greyish-black, box-like thing hid most of its body. The 'helmet' over its head had a clear insert that revealed its eyes—really big eyes that covered the top half of its head. It grasped a glowing silver rod in its right hand."

Packing himself up, Ed chased after it, intent on taking it prisoner but bang! the blue beam shot out from the spaceship and hid him fast.



plies, each surrounded by a brace: "I was shocked. What had they done to me?"

Under hypnosis he said he had been beamed up into the ship and examined but that is not something he likes to talk about. Apart from anything else the doubters have rallied with a vengeance.

Even now, as his publishers claim his book is the most convincing evidence of UFOs to date, he is having to prove that a model of a spaceship found at his old home is made of paper which was not being manufactured in 1987. On his Ansaphone is a message saying: "Do not call at my home."

But even if he is—as he claims—an ordinary man who wishes all this had happened to someone else, he is still at work on a sequel.

• UFOs—The Gulf Breeze Sightings by Ed and Frances Walters. Published by Bonanza Press at £14.99.

THE LONDON EVENING STANDARD

'Spaceship' noise keeps families awake

First there were the mysterious corn circles. Now, families living in Swindon claim to have heard spaceships.

A number of people living in the Westlea and Shaw areas of West Swindon have reported being woken by a rhythmic high-pitched noise.

"I woke up about one in the morning and I thought someone's

house alarm had gone off," said Ann Farthing, of The Laurels, Shaw.

"Then I realised it did not sound like that and so I looked out the window to see if I could see anything."

"It sounded like a spaceship. It was making a hovering, whirring noise and it went on for so long."

"It stayed in the same area and

it worried me because I did not know what it was."

"I have been here three years and I have never heard that sound before."

The mysterious noise was also heard by Mrs Farthing's daughter, Glenna and son-in-law Mike Noble.

They live in Saddleback Road, Shaw, with their 18-month-old daughter, Mica.

"It was like a fast, whizzing sound," said Mike.

"My daughter woke us up at about 1am. The noise went on for about ten minutes and then it stopped."

Neither Swindon police nor Thamesdown Council's environmental health department have had any reports of strange noises in the night.

EVENING ADVERTISER

4 AUG 1990

OAP queries: 'Did anyone else see UFO'

MRS Doris Thirlwell doesn't want anyone to think that at 74 she has 'lost her marbles' but she believes she may have seen a UFO above her Acre Court flat.

by Ann Shaw

Her sighting, through binoculars — of a 'funny shaped star', with bright lights around its elongated

shape which came nearer and nearer without a sound as she stood on her second floor balcony — happened at nearly 10pm on 4 September. It disappeared after a red droplet detached itself from the main body.

"I'd like to know if anyone else saw anything that night. I did not believe in UFOs but now I am beginning to wonder. I've told the warden of the flats and the police and they are all very sceptical but I told them I have my full faculties and I know what I saw. In other words, I have not lost my marbles."

"Hitler did not frighten me and I had enough of him in the London blitz."

"This did not frighten me. It was magnificent."

ANDOVER ADVERTISER

14 SEP 1990

UFOCALL 0898 121886

Couple spooked by close encounter on the planet Thanet



Stars in their eyes — Tracey Render and Paul Cowell

TT2140/23

ARE ALIENS SPYING

THANET TIMES 06.11.90

Exclusive report by Alison Terry

FLYING saucers may be spying over Thanet! It's not a Hallowe'en joke, but a real possibility if a weird sighting by a Thanet couple has an extra-terrestrial explanation.

Strange goings-on were seen in the sky over Kingsgate by a number of spooked locals in the early hours of Wednesday — which just happened to be Hallowe'en morning.

Several people say they saw lightning coming out of clouds, but Paul Cowell is sure he saw seven separate UFOs.

Puzzled Paul said: "I saw seven separate bundles of flashing lights go into a black shape in a cloud over the Captain Dippy pub."

"It I have cracked, then I've cracked, but I have never seen anything like it before. It sounds absurd, but I know what I saw."

And Paul is sure the Government knows there is something going on in the skies, but has covered it up with warnings of freak weather conditions that did not happen.

"If I had only seen one of these things, I would have thought it was a helicopter. But there were seven of them. It was a very exciting experience, but shocking," he said.

A spokesman for RAF Manston said: "We cannot shed any light on the matter, so to speak. We did have a helicopter flying that night, but much earlier on. It is

nothing to do with us."

Paul and his girlfriend Tracey Render were watching the lightning from their house in Kingsgate, when they saw the spooky spaceships.

Paul said he saw the strange lightning, lighting up the clouds, making them gold in colour. Then he spotted a little mass of lights, similar to a star, travel forward and go into the black

shape. This was followed by six others.

"The lightning was coming out of the clouds. It was like a signal and then these things came in. I was shocked," he said.

"There was no way that black shape was a cloud," said Tracey. "I know what I saw, but I expect some people will think I'm mad."

The next morning Paul called Invicta Radio to see if

anyone else had seen the weird spectacle. Several people called to say they had seen the lightning coming out of the cloud, but no one had seen the curious clusters that went into it.

"I still can't believe it," Paul said. "I wanted to call someone to tell us we were not hallucinating. I have a strange feeling it is going to happen again tonight. I just wish I had a video camera."

ON US?

COMMUNION

DIRECTOR: Philippe Mora

STARRING: Christopher Walken, Lindsay Crouse

AND YOU thought Oliver North's testimony was unconvincing? Adapted from Whitely Strieber's avowedly authentic novel of interstellar close encounters, Philippe Mora's big screen banana blows what little credibility this story may once have had right out of the window, emerging as a second rate Spielberg rip-off, featuring a third-rate cast fumbling with a screenplay, the ineptitude of which is truly amazing.

Holed up in a house haunted by alien visitations, a bedraggled Christopher Walken is spirited away by extra-terrestrials (represented as disco-dancing teddy bears), who take him to their leaders and procced to stick pepper-pots up his anal passage in their quest to cement diplomatic relations with Earth.

When our hero's psychiatric health is called into question by his fellow earthlings, he is forced to seek help in the form of a 'group therapy' session with a bunch of similar loons, all of whom claim to have had identical experiences. *Communion* ditches any ambiguity present in the source novel (did it happen or was it hallucination?), opting instead for unsuccessful 'spectacular' visuals.

Mora throws in some visible shock effects which serve only to further undermine the veneer of authenticity. A completely half-witted cinematic rendering of a naff work of fiction, the handsome rewards of which (book sales, movie rights) would seem to suggest that the Mr Strieber is not quite as bunkers as some people seem to think.

Mark Lawrence

NEW MUSICAL EXPRESS

Tank shape UFO

ESSEX Unidentified Flying Object researchers are investigating reports that a tank shaped craft, about 150ft diameter has been spotted on three separate occasions over the county.

One of the sightings was reported by two police officers in the south of the county.

The hovering object had five square red lights.

Two other sightings in different areas of the county also reported a tank shaped craft.

Essex UFO Research Group is holding a meeting on September 7 at the Quaker Meeting House, Church Street, Colchester. All are welcome. If anyone wishes to report sighting they can contact Les Stacey on 0206-211442.

UFO balloon theory

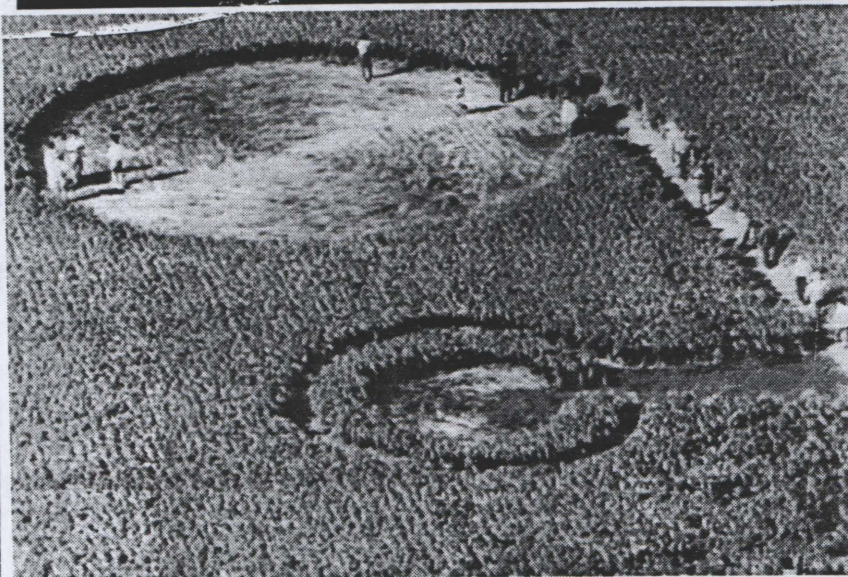
MOSCOW - An unidentified flying object that appeared at the weekend near the northern Soviet city of Murmansk was most likely a gigantic balloon, Tass news agency reported.

THE BIRMINGHAM POST 04.09.90

ESSEX CHRONICLE 31.08.90

BUFORA NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

AND NOW — JAPANESE CIRCLES



Anything the West can do the Japanese seem to be able to improve on, and produce a better version — including mystery circles in fields. From Sassaguri in southern Japan comes this picture of circles which have appeared in a rice farmer's paddy fields. The large one is 60 feet

across and the pair of them are fast becoming major tourist attractions in the Fukuoka region. There are unconfirmed reports that Japan is to start exporting these larger, more clearly defined tourist-attracting circles to the rest of the world.

EVENING STAR 24.09.90

Strange circles 'made by Army'

AN ELABORATE corn circles hoax which fooled scientific researchers and TV crews was carried out by the Army, according to a new book.

Author George Wingfield, in his book *The Crop Circle Enigma*, claims the Army was acting on official instructions in a bid to defuse "public hysteria" over the appearance of the mysterious circles.

The hoax took place in a field at Westbury Hill, Wiltshire, in July. Video cameras captured the movement of orange lights during the night as a series of circles appeared.

But the following morning, the research team found a ouija board and wooden crosses at the site. Fleet Street pranksters were suspected.

OXFORD MAIL 20.09.90

Lights in the sky mystery

EVENING NEWS 28.09.90

PEOPLE were mystified when they saw strange beams of light in the night skies over Malvern.

The town's police station was flooded with calls from residents wondering what the late Wednesday night spectacle was all about.

Suggestions ranged from search lights or UFOs to secret exercises being carried out from the Ministry of Defence's Royal Signals and Radar Establishment buildings in the town.

But the real cause was pinpointed to an exhibition of lasers at the Showman's Show at

Malvern's Three Counties Showground.

Stunned motorist Mrs Pat Botfield was driving to her Malvern Wells home when she saw the lasers.

She said: "The first thing I saw was a flash of blue light. Then every now and then there were more lights. It was quite unnerving. They were big beams of light."

A spokesman for Malvern police said there had been "numerous" calls from the public.

He added: "All these people who think we're into Star Wars were mistaken."

Flying dish?

SCIENTISTS are studying a strange dish-like hole in a cornfield in western France amid suggestions it could have been caused by a U.F.O.

THE NEWS 12.07.90

Mystery circle appears in field of barley

By BEVERLY DAVIES

A NEW mysterious corn circle has appeared in Wales — and a local weather expert claims hot air could be to blame.

The 18-foot-wide circle appeared overnight in a barley field at Wyn and Edna Jones's 180-acre farm at Aberystwyth.

Surprised Edna said yesterday that the circle couldn't have been caused by humans because there were no tracks leading to or from the massive indentation.

Aberystwyth university scientist Professor Jim Taylor believes that the circle could be a result of the humid weather mixed with turbulence from the north-west.

"I believe there is a perfectly reasonable scientific explanation for some of these circles, but it hasn't yet been proven," said geography research professor Mr Taylor.

Crushed

"The weather which led up to the appearance of this latest circle was just right. There was a humid heat and we had unstable air from the north-west, which can lead to a whirlwind-like effect. This could have flattened the barley in a perfect circle shape."

The Jones family couldn't believe their eyes when they saw the circle yesterday morning.

"It looked so strange to see all the corn flattened," said mother-of-three Mrs Jones. "The barley is all crushed down in a perfect circle."

Circles have been appearing all over Britain over the last few months.

Some people believe aliens are to blame for the mystery markings.

But Mr Taylor is convinced there are other reasons.

"I believe some are hoaxes and that the rest are caused by unusual weather conditions," the "blessor" added.

WESTERN MAIL 25.08.90

BUFORA NEWS CUTTING SERVICE

UFO report at bay

FREAK lightning and seven flashing lights were sighted over the Captain Digby pub, Kingsgate, in the early hours of Wednesday.

Paul Cowell, manager of In The Red cafe, Margate, said he watched dumbstruck as the lights disappeared into a black shape in a cloud. He said he had never seen anything like it before in his life.

A spokesman for RAF Manston ruled out the possibility of helicopters. "It is nothing to do with us, so I can't throw any light on the matter, so to speak," he said.

THE SLE OF THANET GAZETTE 02.11.90

Philip Mantle, of the British UFO Research Association, reviews *Communion*.

THE TERM "abduction" is commonly used by UFO researchers to denote a person's alleged unwilling encounter with non-human beings. In the United States, both abductees and UFO researchers alike predominantly express the view that the visitors who perform these abductions are physically real aliens from a planet somewhere else in the universe. They point to the similarity in abduction cases and the physical "evidence" in the form of bodily marks as proof of alien visitation. The film largely takes the American point of view.

However, in Europe a completely different notion dominates abduction research. Instead of looking to the skies for a solution for the visitors, the percipients themselves are the focus of study. Are the visitors a product of the human mind? Are abductions an internal rather than external experience? In support of such ideas, researchers point out that there has never been a third-party witness to an abduction taking place. As in *Communion*, the odd strange light has been observed prior to an abduction taking place, but that is about all.

The bizarre nature of some abductions is also pointed out as "proof" that such experiences are internally human in origin. In *Communion*, Whitley Strieber is seen dancing with the visitors. In Britain, abductee Alan Godfrey encountered an apparently human-looking entity called "Josef", who had a black dog with him. If real physical aliens were coming to Earth would they be disco-dancing dog owners? I rather doubt it.

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT(?):

On 18 Sept. 90 during pass in orb. 26272 (1753-1803UTC) the crew reported luminous effects caused by one unknown object. Manakov reported that the observation began at 1730UTC. The crew had to do all what was possible to get a good view and to make TV recordings and photo-s. They observed the object on their groundtrack from abt. Argentina to the Azores. Manakov reported detailed navigation data and the shapes of the luminous effects. Strekalov was trying to cover the happening through another window. For a week I did not know what to think about these observations: there also was the experiment with the Pr-M4, but at last Moscow reported that the cosmonauts had observed an UFO (for 7 seconds) while passing the Azores.

OSCAR NEWS .12.90

Bang goes UFO theory

MUNICH. Mysterious lights flashing in the night sky over much of western Europe on Monday were due to an exploding meteorite, a spokesman at the Munich observatory said.

Witnesses in France, who included pilots and air traffic controllers, described a "diamond-shaped flying saucer", "a kind of big, luminous metallic structure", and "a flashing triangular Unidentified Flying Object". — (AFP).

THE IRISH TIMES 07.11.90

Alert on reports of UFOs

THREE separate reports of a flying saucer hovering above the moors had police in Saddleworth and West Yorkshire on the alert last night.

A 27-year-old Stalybridge man was shaking uncontrollably when he reported the UFO to police officers from Uppermill.

He saw the object earlier as he drove into Yorkshire and, as he returned, it shone a spotlight on his car, close to the county boundary on the Holmfirth road.

Large

His description of a large, saucer-shaped object, with flashing white lights, matched two independent sightings in West Yorkshire.

One was given by a woman who regularly travels the road and both sightings were within 45 minutes.

The moors have been the location for a substantial number of intermittent UFO reports over the past 20 years.

Aviation authorities were not aware of any craft in the vicinity around the time of the sighting, from 9 45 p.m.

G'DAY, E.T.!

HUNDREDS of sky-gazers rang cops to report a huge, disc-shaped UFO hovering over Sydney, Australia, early yesterday.

THE STAR 18.10.90

UFO mystery

A COUPLE claim they saw a UFO hovering over them while camping out one night last week.

Wolf Fernandez and his girlfriend Kirsty Berry, both of Cloutsham Street, Northampton, say the black, diamond shaped craft appeared as they lay in their tent by the mysterious Rollright Stone Circle near Banbury on the Autumn Equinox.

Mr Fernandez, 27, said: "At first I thought it was a plane, but it had lights all round the side and then it began to wobble about the clouds."

Slow

"It was really low and virtually stopped right above us then it just turned left and went away dead slowly. It made a noise like a generator, but really loud."

"Someone said it could have been one of those stealth bombers, but I know it wasn't. A stealth bomber wouldn't have lights all over it. I'm sure what I saw was a UFO."

NORTHANTS POST 05.10.90

INDEPENDENT 11/10/90

EVENING CHRONICLE 12.10.90

BUFORA NEWS CUTTING SERVICE

Logic flattens corn circle theories

James Erlichman
Agriculture Correspondent

A DOWN-to-earth theory was advanced yesterday to explain "corn circles", the symmetrical flattened crop formations which appear mysteriously at dawn.

Explanations for the phenomenon have ranged from the bizarre to the outright loopy.

The footprints of flying saucers are fancied by UFO enthusiasts, while druids favour the dark power of ley lines to explain the circles. More than 900 crop circles have been documented in 30 countries with 130 reported in Wiltshire this year alone.

Scientists have advanced recherche explanations including solar energy, the earth's electromagnetic fields, and most recently, plasma vortices — mini-whirlwinds which are said to suck up and electrically charge dust and debris, which then scythes the corn in a circular motion.

But the answer is altogether simpler, according to Robert Cory BSc (Hons), who yesterday published a report, *Circular Evidence, An Explanation*. "The phenomenon is caused by the old-fashioned circular irrigation machine", he said. Excessive watering can alter salts and silt in a circular pattern, weakening crop stems and leaving certain soils vulnerable to

wind flurries, which "could then lay the crop down in the neatly layered manner which such circles exhibit".

Mr Cory, aged 46, explains that the circles are infrequent because years may elapse before a chance wind strikes when the corn crop is near harvest, tall and vulnerable.

They are typically found near water sources and in locations such as chalk uplands, which need irrigation in summer.

Mr Cory's report draws heavily on irrigation techniques. He has placed advertisements urging people to obtain a copy. How much was he hoping to make from the venture? "Absolutely nothing, the report is free. Reprinting it and

paying for adverts will set me back several hundred pounds."

Could he afford it? "Just say I am well heeled. I am in the industrial property business, based in Manchester, and have a Rolls-Royce."

And his credentials? "My degree is in theoretical physics. I was browsing in a bookshop and found a book, remaindered at £4.50, describing the loony theories."

"It got me thinking, and when I get an idea I like to see it through to the death."

So he could not accept the footprints of flying saucers? "Are you kidding? Everything I do in life is rational and analytical... not least making money."

GUARDIAN 07.07.90

Riddle of glasnost and the UFOs

MOSCOW, Friday. THOSE Creatures from Outer Space, regularly reported to invade Russia, are back — this time in Lenin's home town.

And some experts are starting to blame Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's reform campaign.

People are becoming receptive to Strange Phenomena in the new era of glasnost (openness).

Nationally fascinated by obscure events, the Soviet Union frequently reports sightings of UFOs but Tass news agency broke fresh ground today by reporting the arrival of a "riverboat from space" over the Volga

River town of Ulyanovsk where state founder Vladimir Lenin was born.

Correspondent Nikolai Milov reported from Ulyanovsk that there had been few UFO buffs in the city until last Tuesday night.

That was when Tatyana Bednyakova "looked out of her window at the night sky and could hardly believe her eyes," the reporter for the news agency said.

Bednyakova called two neighbours and they all saw an object radiating coloured lights. The object then illuminated from the inside, turning into "something like a river vessel with windows."

The Tass correspondent said that about two weeks earlier a group of local policemen "saw something very similar".

Explaining the phenomenon, one Western diplomat said: "Much of it has to do with the tremendous upsurge in religion over the past few years. Russians are by nature deeply religious people and are now desperately looking for something to believe in."

Religious belief was heavily discouraged during the rule of Soviet dictator Josef Stalin and only really started to recover after Gorbachev came to power.—Reuter.

GLASGOW HERALD 17.03.90

SPOTTA DA UFO, GINO

AN unidentified flying object brought Italy to a halt over the weekend.

Phone lines to police, radio and TV stations were blocked for two hours as thousands reported the pear-shaped luminous object that flashed across the sky.

Air force jets were sent in pursuit but failed to catch the UFO, which vanished in a puff of smoke.

THE STAR
23.04.90

Abductions

Andrew Clifford's review of *Abductions* by Edith Fiore (3 February) makes light of a phenomenon that should perhaps be taken rather more seriously.

In New York last year I had the opportunity to interview three self-professed "UFO-abductees". These were women who under hypnosis (conducted by Budd Hopkins, the author of *Intruders*) had told tales of being taken into a space ship and being the victim of cruel genetic experiments. In each case I found prima facie evidence that the woman had in fact been repeatedly abused as a young girl—not by an extra-terrestrial but by a stepfather or other relative.

I would suggest that in many cases the "abductees" are using a currently available (and acceptable) myth as a cover for terrible memories of real childhood events. Indeed the UFO scenario—with its faceless aliens who callously treat the victim's body as an experimental object—appears to provide a peculiarly effective metaphor for sexual abuse.

I hold no brief for Edith Fiore. None the less, if through her own belief in UFOs she is enabling abuse victims to give voice to previously repressed fears, her work may be genuinely therapeutic. She would not be the first who by encouraging a belief in nonsense has helped people to make sense of their experience.
Nicholas Humphrey
Ashwell, Hertfordshire

NEW SCIENTIST 24.02.90

BUFORA NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

Aliens are taking our babies for a ride . . .

by Tim Cooper

ALIENS are abducting women and stealing their babies, according to a leading American authority on the subject.

Well, you don't need to lock up your daughters just yet, but the news was announced in all seriousness at the London Business School last night by Budd Hopkins, who has written two books on alien abductions.

There was no dissent among the 100 UFOlogists who crammed into a lecture hall in Regent's Park to hear and see the evidence.

Mr Hopkins, a painter-sculptor from New York, has spent the last 15 years studying the phenomenon of alien abductions.

He claims to have documented more than 300 individual cases, including pregnant women whose babies "disappeared" after their close encounters, confounding them, their gynaecologists and the fathers-to-be.

The victims are always, so far as one can gather, returned to terra firma after being whisked aboard alien spacecraft for a once-over by an ET GP.

They witness some strange sights—four ft aliens with grey skin and big black eyes, piles of extra-terrestrial corpses and even half-human half-alien crossbred babies. Once abducted, the victims are likely to be whisked into the ether again and again.

Mr Hopkins said he had never been abducted and had no such wish for himself or his family.

Children and young people seemed to be a particular target for the aliens, said Mr Hopkins, who showed slides to illustrate their experiences, including their impressions of the aliens they had encountered.

You had to admit they all bore an uncanny resemblance to each other. You also had to admit they looked like close cousins of the aliens in Steven Spielberg's *Close Encounters Of The Third Kind*.

As for his own opinions, Mr Hopkins displayed a reluctance to go on the record. "I don't think they come from Birmingham or Central America," he opined, adding, helpfully: "They come from somewhere else."

Wherever they do come from, he thought they proba-



Budd Hopkins: "I don't think it is an invasion"

bly had some kind of "genetic evolutionary problem" hence their eagerness to examine humans so closely and take our babies.

"I don't think it is an invasion," declared Mr Hopkins to the audience, members of the British UFO Research Association. "It could be some kind of infiltration. But I see terrible psychic damage coming in the wake of it."

"This phenomenon is very large worldwide. It is very upsetting. It has a very ominous quality."

"We are faced with something that deserves investigation, not ridicule."

On a wintry morning as dawn broke, off-duty policeman Philip Spencer stepped out of his old stone house and set off across the moors. An experienced walker, he took a compass and a camera.

His starting point was Ilkley, a small town on the edge of some of Yorkshire's wildest landscape. His destination was a village on the far side of Ilkley Moor.

Spencer was a policeman and a trained observer. His eyesight was good and his mind alert. Aged 24, he was strong and fit. He was also familiar with the moors and the visual tricks that nature can occasionally play.

His qualifications are important because they

This photo was taken by a policeman as

evidence of his encounter with an alien.

He doesn't care who believes his story.

But the experts are convinced

elevate his account of what happened during that walk to serious evidence.

Spencer had reached a depression on the top of a hill when his attention was drawn by an object.

"There was a small green creature about 10 feet away," he says. "As I brought out the camera it scuttled away and stopped about 40 feet from me."

Spencer photographed the creature. It made a dismissive movement with its right arm and he watched it disappear around a bluff. Shortly after, a silver

Is

disc-shaped object shot into the air and disappeared into the clouds.

Spencer was too confused to continue his journey so he returned to Ilkley where he had another shock.

"I couldn't believe it," he says. "All the shops were open and the streets were filled with shoppers. It should have been only about 8.15am but the town hall clock said 10am." One and three-quarter hours had vanished from his life.

Spencer caught a bus to Keighley so he could get his photograph developed immediately. Shown above, *Take a Break* has published that photo for the first time. Although underexposed and shaky, it shows a strange green figure.

Spencer wrote to Jenny Randles, one of Britain's leading

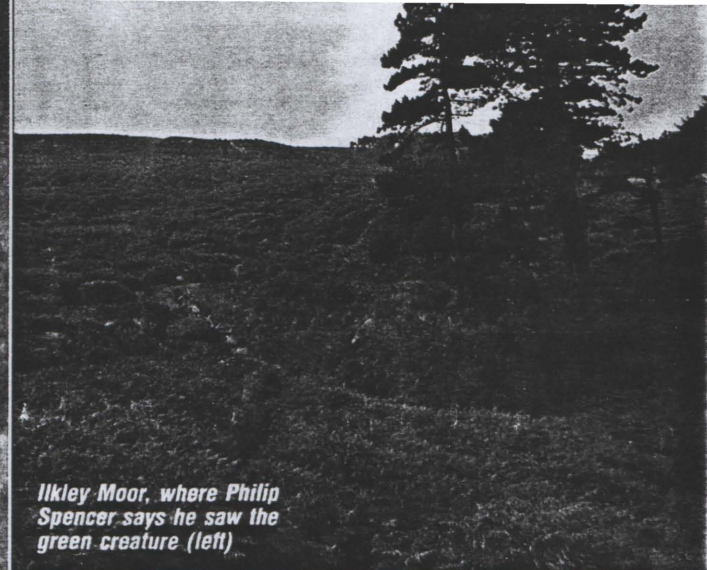
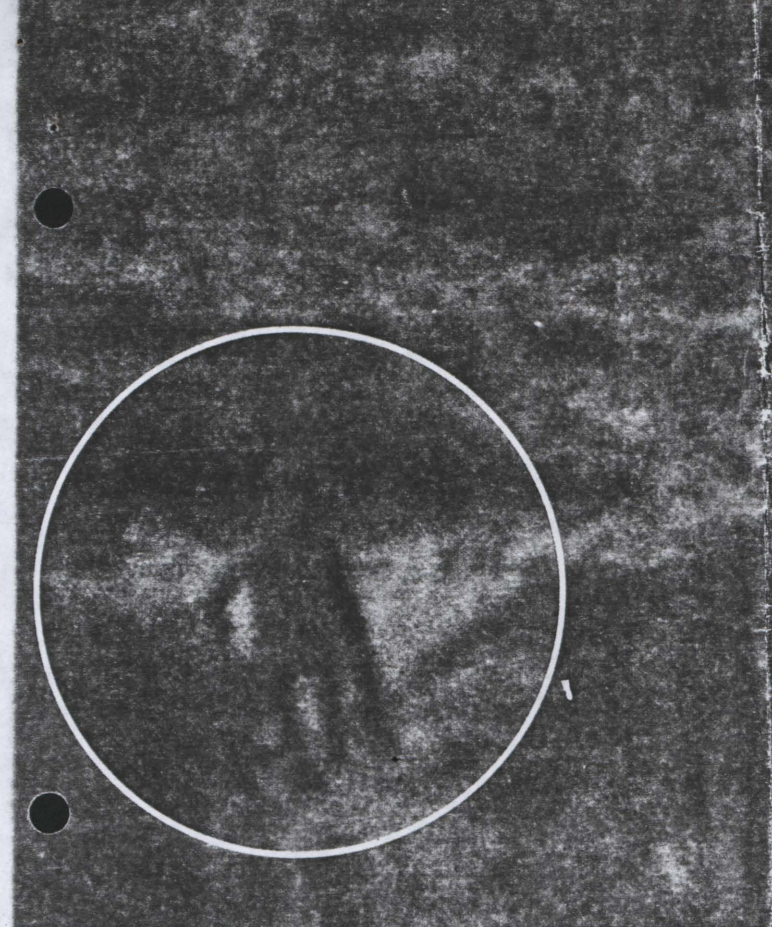


Left: Peter Hough believes this is serious evidence

TAKE A BREAK 22.09.90

BUFORA NEWS CUTTING SERVICE

THE LONDON EVENING STANDARD 18.07.90



Ilkley Moor, where Philip Spencer says he saw the green creature (left)

Is this an alien?

authorities on UFOs. He has so contacted a man who honed me.

I went to interview Spencer at his home. His wife Janine believes his account completely. But as an objective ufologist, I put to him that the figure was a hoax, perhaps a foam rubber dummy.

He said: 'I'm not interested in what people think. I know what I saw and if people don't believe me it's up to them. I've got nothing to gain by doing that. I've got better things to do with my time.'

The normal motivations of a hoaxer are fame and money. Spencer wanted neither. In fact he insisted we did not use his real name.

A Kodak expert prepared a report on the photograph. I read: 'I wouldn't care to commit myself to any observation except that the film had not been interfered with after processing.'

What was on the photograph had been there on the moors. We calculated the figure to be 4ft 6in tall. Its

long thin legs and ape-like arms ruled out a child wearing a costume.

Another item of evidence was Spencer's compass, which now pointed south instead of north. I showed it to Dr Edward Spooner, Senior Lecturer of Electrical Engineering at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology. He said this could be done with special equipment, but it was not generally available. The suggestion was that the UFO had caused it.

We took Spencer to see Jim Singleton, a clinical psychologist, who hypnotised him. This is a transcript of the session:

'I'm walking along the moor. Oh! It's quite windy. There's a lot of clouds. Walking up towards the trees, I can see this little something, can't tell, but he's green. It's moving

towards me. And I can't move... I'm stuck and everything's gone fuzzy.

'I'm... I'm floating along in the air... I want to get down! And this green thing's walking ahead of me and I don't like it. I still can't move. I'm going round the corner and this green thing's in front of me. Oh God! I want to get down!'

At this point Spencer was breathing quickly, obviously terrified. Breathing faster, he then continued: 'There's a... there's a big silver saucer thing and a door in it, and I don't want to go in there.'

Suddenly he reports that everything is black and he calms down. He is in a room and placed on a table surrounded by four or five green beings. There's a voice telling him not to be afraid and a horizontal bar of light scans his body.

More relaxed now, he

sees one of the beings near a door, beckoning him to follow. He finds himself in a corridor, looking through a window at planet Earth.

Philip is taken to a circular room with a gyroscopic-like device at the centre. The compass round his neck is drawn towards it.

He is shown two 'films': one of poisoned rivers, polluted seas and air choked with chemical fumes, and of starving children. The creatures seem concerned. Philip refused to talk about the second film. 'It was very personal,' he said.

The beings ask him if he understands the film. He shakes his head and everything goes black again.

Still under hypnosis, Philip's now back on the hill. He's surprised at seeing the creature, takes the photograph and sees the UFO take off.

Jim Singleton was convinced Philip was genuinely hypnotised. Of Spencer's story, he commented: 'It seems to be consistent. The good thing about the

photograph is that it helps Philip face up to a very unusual experience. And it provides material evidence to back up what he knows as a memory.'

After hypnosis, Philip was able to give a fuller description of the creature. 'It's quite small,' he said. 'He's got big pointed ears with large dark eyes. There's no nose and only a small mouth. But the hands are enormous with three big, 'sausage-like' fingers. The arms are long and the feet are V-shaped, like two big toes. The skin is very rough-looking.'

Today Philip Spencer is in a senior management position in an American company. He never wants his identity revealed because he says he believes it will ruin him socially and professionally.

But he adds: 'I wish I'd taken a clearer picture. I had no idea there'd be so much interest in it.'

Peter Hough
Chairman of Manchester UFO Research Association

'There's a big silver saucer thing. I don't want to go in'

TAKE A BREAK 22.09.90

BUFORA NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

Strange and unidentified flying eyebrows

SOMEWHERE out there, way beyond the reach of our furthest-seeing astronomical devices, perhaps in a galaxy of which we know nothing, exist superior life-forms, with a knowledge of physical principles as yet undreamt of in our humble sciences. With this knowledge, they have solved the problems of travel over vast distances, and of communication through telepathy. And, perhaps at this very moment, a small group of these creatures, bored out of their hyper-intelligent minds, are wondering whether to zoom over to planet Earth to scare the hell out of Ed Walters again.

Why they keep picking on poor old Ed and his family is unclear, unless it is because they have taken a fancy to his bushy eyebrows, but between November 1987 and May 1988, they seem to have singled him out as worthy of particular attention. They have caused him pain with an agonising hum that permeates his mind when they approach; they have caught him in powerful blue paralyzing beams; they have even beamed

his unconscious body aboard their craft for examination.

This book is an account by Ed and Frances Walters of their ordeal at the hands (or tentacles or pseudopodia, who can tell?) of the aliens. Ed is a builder and member of the City Planning Board of Gulf Breeze, Florida; his wife Frances is president of the high-school parent-teacher association. They are, in short, upstanding members of the community not given to wild story-telling or lunatic delusions. And they have been visited by creatures from outer space.

The visitors speak Spanish (though with grammatical mistakes, to judge from the example given), they eat bananas and they are four feet tall. They seem to be rather shy, because the creatures themselves never appear when Ed has his trusty Polaroid in his hand, though he has plenty of snaps of their

ships. They call him Zehaas, perhaps from the Spanish *ceja*s, meaning eyebrows. How well it all fits.

Personal accounts like this, even when they enjoy the corroborative testi-

BOOK REVIEW

mony of ufologists who have examined photographs and so on, allow a number of possible explanations. The whole thing is a hoax perpetrated on the authors. The authors have seen something in the sky and there is a totally rational explanation without leaving our planet. The authors have a severe migraine-like condition and live in an area with

by appearing only to the chosen few. Ed Walters is, because of his personal experiences, on the side of the believers, and because of that his account makes rather tedious reading. I am left just as extraterrestrially agnostic now as I was before reading this book.

Perhaps, somewhere out there, the creatures who disturbed Ed Walters are holding a copy of his book, trying to convince their fellow extraterrestrials that it is evidence of intelligent life on other worlds.

"Come on, guys," they may say. "We've seen him. We only have to bounce up and down a little outside his window and out he comes with his camera. Look! Here are the photos he took of us."

But the extraterrestrial sceptics dismiss them. They cannot believe in a life-form that rushes out in the middle of the night clad only in a towel, while Mrs Life-form takes a photograph of him shaking his fists at a spaceship.

William Hartston

UFOs: The Gulf Breeze Sightings Ed & Frances Walters Bantam Press

very curious light reflections. The authors have genuinely been visited by creatures from outer space.

These 350 pages of detailed reports of UFO sightings do not totally eliminate any of the above hypotheses.

In his recent book *Out There*, Howard Blum dismisses the Gulf Breeze sightings as evidence of extraterrestrial life on the grounds that the US Air Force were testing a new plane in the area. Of course, the American military are so sensitive about flying saucers that it would be just like them to make up the story about the test flights as part of their disinformation campaign.

The publicity material on the present book claims that whatever your opinions about flying saucers, this book will change them. That is not so. The inhabitants of flying saucers, like God, seem unwilling to prove their own existence, preferring to preserve their mysticism

Italians in a furore over UFO fireball

From Paul Bompard, Rome

THOUSANDS of Italians, including four pilots, are wondering what they saw on Saturday night when a giant fireball and huge mass of blinding white light was spotted speeding silently across the sky. The large number of reports, and their consistency, make it one of the most impressive UFO sightings in Italy in recent years.

Within minutes, hundreds of calls began jamming the switchboards of newspapers, police stations and military control centres.

The *Carabinieri* paramilitary police were alerted, and one of their patrol boats cruised for two hours off the coast south of Rome. No trace has yet been found of the mysterious burning object. In Tivoli, on the hills east of Rome, Signor Nicola Cicar-

rese, teacher and amateur astronomer, looked at his watch on seeing the fireball.

"It was 8.25," he said. "I saw it for six seconds, then it disappeared and there was a trail of grey smoke which lingered for about four minutes. It was incredibly fast and travelling in a straight line horizontally. I know a little about these phenomena, and I would say it was a meteorite, but a meteorite does not move horizontally and it catches fire much higher up."

Signor Carlo Resca, supervisor of the radar control centre at the Ciampino airport in Rome, said: "We received four reports from four different pilots in rapid succession. They all described a very large object, very luminous, moving silently through the air at great speed."

THE TIMES 23.04.90

MAJESTIC by Whitley Strieber (Macdonald, £12.95)

AMERICAN author Whitley Strieber claims that his latest work is a novel based on fact.

If this assertion is true, and sufficient evidence is offered to suggest that it is, then the result is a piece of partial fiction that leaves the reader in a state of unease, inspired by something more than the mastery of a compelling story-teller.

The true incident relates to the well-documented crash in 1947 of a strange aircraft near the Roswell Army Airfield in the New Mexico desert.

The widely scattered debris resembled nothing ever before found on this earth. A substance thinner than silk and yet totally indestructible, and a wood lighter than balsa but which could not be burned.

In a massive cover-up operation code-named Majestic, the American government despatched a small team of experts to examine the wreckage, with orders to report directly to President Truman.

In their attempts to camouflage the results of that investigation, the government agents claimed that the material came from a new kind of weather balloon, and they took steps to discredit the witness of anyone

who dared to voice the contrary view — that in fact an alien spaceship had fallen to earth.

A gripping novel is the result of this unusual blend of fact and fantasy, with many questions posed and few resolved. Did an alien power visit this planet 43

years ago? Was it by accident or design that the three strange corpses which perished with their craft in that New Mexico desert were left to be discovered by the official investigators? Does that power plan to return in the future? —Terry Neale.

JERSEY EVENING

POST 24.03.90

BUFORA NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

UFO sighted hovering in night sky

A UFO sighting has been reported to Long Eaton police station.

A Long Eaton man insisted he saw a shimmering silver object hovering over Toton Sidings.

East Midlands Airport said they had no radar report of an unidentified craft — and suggest the object was a mischievously-designed hot air balloon.

LONGEATON HERALD

& POST 01.08.90

WICKFORD man John Westgarth stepped out into his back garden one night last week — and was confronted by a mysterious pinky-orange cigar-shape glowing in the sky.

Shaken, Mr Westgarth shouted to his wife Doris who rushed out into the garden of their Alicia Avenue home. Together they stared at the unexplainable mass, hovering over their back garden and could come to no other conclusion that it was a UFO.

Mrs Westgarth said: "Before I saw this I didn't believe in UFOs but now I don't know that to think."

"We have racked our brains to try and come up with an explanation but we can't find one."

"I will certainly be looking up at the sky more often to see if it happens again, but as I've never heard of anything like this in Wickford before it's highly unlikely."

"This is one of the strangest things that has ever happened to me."

After Mrs Westgarth contacted the Gazette, we put her in touch with Mr Bob Easter of the Technical Phenomenon Research group, based in Billericay.

And now he has issued a plea to anyone else in the area who may have seen any mysterious goings-on to contact him.

Mr Easter said: "I was very interested to hear from the Westgarths because this is the first time I have heard of a sighting like this."

"What our group normally does when we receive a report is ask the person to answer a survey which covers a wide range of questions, then we can start making investigations and see if anyone else has seen the same thing."

"I would be pleased to hear from anyone with more information."

Anyone with information should contact Bob Easter on Billericay (0277) 656701.

BILLERICAY GAZETTE 07.09.90

A close encounter!

STRANGE lights in the sky have left the Chambers family, of Bicester, feeling puzzled.

They were at their Kennedy Road home around 11.30pm on Sunday night when they saw the mysterious lights rotating and pulsating in the sky. All six people present saw the lights.

Son Danny said: "They sent shivers up my back. I have never seen anything like this before. It was really eerie."

OXFORD MAIL 01.08.90

CLACTON GAZETTE 05.10.90

The day Clacton had its own UFO

A MYSTERIOUS UFO has been spotted in Clacton, hovering in the sky and then shooting out to sea, according to a new book.

The UFO Report 1991, edited by Timothy Good and published on October 25, tells how a giant round metal object was spotted floating 150ft in the air.

With blue, green and red lights flashing, it shot silently out to sea at tremendous speed.

The book says one woman was flabbergasted as she noticed the object looming up.

She said: "This huge object shot up right across my view. It was approximately 200 — 250ft across and the same distance up with lights spinning anti-clockwise."

It was reported to have landed in a cornfield in Kent, making a low, humming sound.

The book also tells of how American jets were

abducted by aliens in Puerto Rico, how two Chinese soldiers were chased by a UFO and gives the latest on the famous corn circles.

Nothing to do with the moon

MADAM, — If Mr Sheldon of the Cotswold Astronomical Society had been given the full facts of my sighting ("UFO — or was it just a touch of the moon?"), he would not have dismissed the episode as he did in Ferret (September 11).

The moon was on my right in a clear sky with the Bredon and Malvern Hills lights visible. The bright amber light was at least 60 degrees north of it and less than 100ft feet higher than my vantage point, which was 500ft above sea level.

The phenomenon had nothing whatever to do with the moon nor, for reasons which space inhibits me from summarising, with a helicopter, a hot air balloon, microlight or hang glider, aircraft, vehicles or celestial bodies.

The suggestion that the light was shed by the moon, so far from meeting the facts, is speeding away from them.

Perhaps others saw what I did and can offer a credible terrestrial theory that accords with the facts as described to your reporter.

Ferret's Informant,
Pifford Road,
Leckhampton.

BY JON BISH

The glowing ball streaks across the night sky between 10.30pm and 1am, he told the Echo.

It always follows the flightpath of aircraft taking off from Bournemouth International Airport — but Anthony is convinced it is no ordinary aeroplane.

"There are no landing lights or vapour trail and it really travels at a rate of knots," he said.

Mr Deemer is convinced the intruder was a craft from another world, but Anthony is keeping his options open.

"It would be nice to think it was a spaceship but I would not like to say," he said.

A CHRISTCHURCH man has come to the defence of the amateur astronomer who claims he spotted an alien space ship over Poole.

And space travel enthusiast Anthony Bone, 44, claims the strange glowing object seen by Poole pensioner Henry Deemer makes frequent passes over Dorset.

Anthony, of Draper Road, Somerford, made the connection after reading Mr Deemer's story in Tuesday's Echo.

"He isn't dreaming — I've been seeing the same thing for months," said Anthony.

EVENING ECHO 11.09.90

GLoucestershire Echo 20.09.90

BUFORA NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

Bringing UFOs down to earth

CORN circles have been found in South Yorkshire at Brecks and Rawmarsh.

Are they created by mini whirlwinds. "a stationary descending atmospheric vortex"?

Are they created by Unidentified Flying Objects?

Or are they the work of the hoaxer — a farmer going round and round holding a rope, the other end tied to a stick pushed into the ground?

Where a hoax has not been acknowledged, no entirely satisfactory explanation has ever been given, though the phenomenon has been known about since as early as 1678 and is part of the folklore of Hertfordshire.

Whichever way they are made, the circles have come at exactly the right time for the publication of *Phantoms of the Sky. UFOs - A Modern Myth*, a debunking down-to-earth piece of research by David Clarke and Andy Roberts. Cornfield circles are discussed, though the book is more concerned with tracing the development of UFO mythology from the time of the first sighting in 1947 to the present day.

We in South Yorkshire have had our share of Ufology.

There were two police officers who spotted a V-shaped machine "hovering just yards away" at Ecclesfield in February 1988. It was said to have remained suspended for 30 seconds before flying off towards Grenoside.

Subsequent interpretation was that this was no UFO (as some had hoped it might be) but an aircraft.

Clarke and Roberts say stars, planets and aeroplanes are the three types of most misidentified aerial objects and the UFO books are littered with accounts which can easily be dismissed as mundane phenomena.

The moon, they say, when misinterpreted as a UFO, has followed cars and landed and behaved just as "explained" UFOs are said to have done.

David Clark investigated the case which occurred at 4 am, on March 1981 when two night nurses at Doncaster Royal Infirmary reported an unusual light low on the horizon in the south, presumably over Bessacarr.

They claimed that, as they watched the light, it became clear that they were looking at a domed saucer. Studying it closely, they could see that it was a craft of some sort, having portholes on the side. They made a drawing of it, saying he top part remained stationary while the lower half turned clockwise, displaying white lights.

It remained in sight for 30 minutes before it vanished in the morning haze.

By ALAN BERRY

Sounds convincing, doesn't it!

But Clarke and Roberts discovered that at that time the moon was in exactly the same part of the sky, and at the same angle of elevation. They concluded: "The witnesses did not see the moon, so it is logical to conclude that they had observed the moon through the refractive layers of the earth's atmosphere and overlaid this with their ideas about what a UFO should look like — a domed disc with portholes."

The influence of preconceived ideas is very strong.

RPVs — Remotely Piloted Vehicles — may be responsible for some sightings. These can be 25ft long model aircraft fitted with cameras made by Dragon Models of Wrexham, and used by local authorities, police and Ministry of Defence.

The authors suspect RPVs for the outbreak of UFO sightings in the Barnsley area in 1988.

The truth lay in the evidence of two witnesses walking on farmland at Staincross who observed a large triangular-shaped flying object with coloured lights which appeared to be operated by a man in a car who used an aerial or control box to guide it.

At the same time a fleet of cars appeared, and looked to be chasing the object. The only mystery appears to be who were the operators, what was their purpose, and why they should be so secretive about it.

Again and again, David Clarke and Andy Roberts produce well-reasoned explanations for apparently strange activities. Their study is of people as much as the investigation of the paranormal.

There were 300 witnesses in Nottinghamshire and Humberside to a huge formation of coloured lights which moved slowly, through the sky.

In the world of Ufology, we believe whatever we want to believe and it's all pretty harmless amusement anyway.

Such phenomena have always been with us, and always will. The world would be a duller place minus UFOs, and where would the popular newspapers be without them in the silly season?

*Published by Robert Hale, £12.95.

Strange sightings which remain a mystery

Back in August, I ran a series of articles about lights in the sky, mysterious objects flying over Wales and the lack of information about such things from official sources. As you would expect, there was a reaction from my readers.

Much comment was made about "cover-ups" by the aforementioned officialdom. I have to say, in fairness to our elected representatives, that I believe they are as mystified, amused and bamboozled as we ordinary mortals. There are, of course, a whole host of unelected authorities who seem to run this land for us, so I can't really pass any comment on their views on either UFOs or other unexplained phenomena...

Anyway, my friend Bernard has been a staunch follower of this column over the eons of time, and he phoned to tell me that he's sure that UFOs were here before the planet was. Subscribes to the line of thought which suggests that the creators of this world were from a different sphere, does Bernard. Again, food for thought. But I would certainly dispute the "facts" set out in that famous book "Was God An Astronaut".

My comments on the Egryn Lights, drummed up by a deeply religious chapel-going lady in the early years of this century during one of many religious revivals, prompted someone whose signature I can't decipher to ask how the lady controlled the coming and going of those North Walian illuminations. The short answer is: "I dunno". That she had a strong connection with their appearance was well authenticated and the press at the time carried many tales of her abilities. Good old *Cambrian News* was among the first papers to publish the story!

Whether people saw things after reading my pieces, or they came forward in the knowledge that I respect their anonymity, I don't know. But here's a series of sightings made in one small area or Wales recently.

A young man travelling by car near Ystrad Meurig on the afternoon of Thursday, September 13, saw a strange object hovering near a hillside. It was "bright orange and shaped like a windsock". The sighting lasted only seconds and then it disappeared slowly "from the narrower end first". It's presence cannot be explained in any ordinary way.

On the night of Tuesday, September 18, a lady living near Tregaron observed a white moving light in the sky. She was looking east, over the Cambrian range, and the light travelled almost due south to due north. It was about the size of the planet Venus, its distance was impossible to judge, and it moved in a straight line through approximately forty-five degrees of sky before fading into the slight mist. Its passing took "about ten seconds".

Over Borth at about half-past-nine on the night of Friday, September 21, lights resembling "tongues of silver fire" were seen. They appeared to fall onto Borth Bog. Next evening over Capel Bangor, a driver was surprised to see a "sharply bright flashing light, something like a stationary beacon". It disappeared for a short while, only to reappear in the same place about twenty minutes later.

You know that we shall be seeing an increase in "shooting stars" over the next few weeks. These are the residue of the passing of Haley's Comet. Perhaps this explains some of these sightings. But certainly not the orange "windsock" (and, yes, I know it sounds comical).

The "tongues of fire" are not uncommon, and certainly not shooting stars or meteorites. I've seen such a phenomenon myself, though mine wasn't silver.

So here's that phrase again — it's all food for thought. Thanks for confiding your information: I'm always delighted to hear from you. See you next week.

CAMBRIAN NEWS 12.10.90

UFO report tells of round metal object

A NEW book tells how a UFO was reportedly spotted in Clacton, hovering in the sky and then shooting out to sea.

UFO Report 1991, edited by Timothy Good is published on October 25, and tells of how a giant round metal object was supposedly spotted floating 150 feet in the air.

With blue, green and red lights flashing it then shot silently out to sea at tremendous speed.

The book tells how last September one woman was flabbergasted as she noticed the object loo ing up.

It was reported to have landed in a cornfield in Kent, making a low, humming sound.

EVENING GAZETTE 05.10.90

SUNDAY TIMES 19.08.90

Farmer in a paddy

Tokyo: Farmer Shunzo Abe protested that two "mystery circles," similar to those causing a stir in Britain, flattened grain in his western Japan rice paddy.

YORKSHIRE EVENING PRESS 21.09.90

BUFORA NEWS CUTTING SERVICE

MENTION Star Trek, E.T. or little green men to Ron West, the chairman of the Essex UFO Research, and he threatens to beam you up.

Although most people may dismiss sightings of lights in the sky as the result of too long down the pub, Mr West looks for a sober explanation — and he is not alone.

There are 54 members of the research team, which includes scientists, accountants, policemen and their own hypnotist.

They take all of their 2,500 reports a year seriously and about 300 of them are termed unidentified.

Their files date back to 1906, but are kept in a secret place as there have been raids on UFO centres.

The reason for the raids is not clear, but now some of the information is kept on computer while other data is closely guarded by a member whose identity is known to only a few in the group.

It is this type of secrecy which makes many people sceptical about the reliability of the team.

But the very nature of the research, with or without the secrecy, is enough to bring on the credulity.

Keeping lists of UFO sightings? What is a UFO?

Mr West's description is: "Anything that is unidentified; it could be space debris, the re-entry of satellites or aircraft."

One of the latest sightings was reported by one of their members, clairvoyant and medium, Mark Parnham.

He explained: "My fiancée and I left Point Clear at about 12.15am and started to drive at a sedate pace. We were roughly half way across St Osyth creek when she shouted at me to stop.

"We saw this object. It was just incredible. It was 400ft above the ground and was coming to earth in an anti-clockwise manoeuvre.

SILENT

"It had cherry red lights and was coming down at a 45 degree angle when it turned on its axis and shot off. The sky was clear and there was no breeze; it was so smooth and silent it could not have been a plane."

Mr West contacted the Stansted and Southend airfields, the military and the coastguard, but no-one knew anything and nothing had shown up on any radar.

Mr Parnham's "close encounter" is not easy to swallow. But his sincerity in that he saw something is not to be doubted.

The research team believes in these sightings; but belief, certainly in the case of UFOs, is definitely in the eye of the beholder.

When it comes to the research team's theories for these phenomena, they are not exactly conven-



• Strange sights — all in a night's work for Essex UFO Research.

The public loves a good UFO story. Mysterious corn circles in Wiltshire made national headlines and last week thousands saw strange lights in the skies over Belgium. To the majority, UFOs are just a good yarn, but to some they are deadly serious. **MARK BEALES** reports.

tional. The words they use are, like the sightings themselves — vague and difficult to prove.

"Some of the cases we have investigated have had an inter-dimensional aspect, some have been extra-terrestrial, some involved time travel from the future and the last, which is perhaps the hardest for the public to understand, is the inner world," explained Mr Parnham.

The inner world, he said, is based on the assumption that the world is basically hollow.

According to Mr West, one scientist, Admiral Byrd, went to the North Pole and continued for another 1,700 miles where he managed to get under the Earth and found rivers, lakes, forests and fields.

Why Admiral Byrd alone was privy to this discovery — there isn't a hint of anyone else stumbling across this underworld — is slightly unclear, but Mr West thinks that more than one government may have already done so and are keeping quiet.

People losing themselves in time is apparently not unusual either.

One Clacton couple left the town at 8pm heading for Corby where they were due to arrive between 10pm and 11pm.

While they were driving a strange horse-shoe shaped light appeared, and hovered 400 yards to their left. They went on and ar-

rived in Corby at 1am, having left two-and-a-half-hours behind somewhere.

Mr West stressed that this case had been extensively investigated and the subjects had been put under hypnotic regression.

Most of the theories and explanations are closely guarded and Mr West is not overtly enthusiastic about revealing them to all and sundry, basically because he feels the public would not understand about underground worlds and time travel. About that, he is not wrong.

SATELLITE

Up to 25 of the group head for the hills with a pair of high power binoculars and set up watch, although the best they have seen so far is a passing satellite.

One memorable report occurred last year when the team was inundated with callers claiming to have seen lights in the sky.

The reason was fairly down to earth; it was an Ipswich nightclub celebrating its first anniversary with a spectacular lightshow.

But Mr Parnham is adamant that England, especially this area, is becoming the UFO centre of the world.

"There are literally hundreds of thousands of people who have seen things, but they keep their mouths shut as they are afraid they may be labelled as cranks."

Mystery lights in the night sky are explained

THE skies above Stockport looked like a scene from the film "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" on Monday night.

UFO-like shapes hovered in giant circles as anxious people in the Heaton watched in awe.

Manchester Airport's switchboard was besieged as callers reported the spooky, high altitude light show, which many thought was the work of extra-terrestrials.

"It was the strangest thing I have ever seen," said one caller to the Stockport Express Advertiser on Tuesday morning. "I saw four circular lights moving rapidly in great arcs throughout the clouds above Heaton Mersey. It went on for about 30 minutes and there was no sound.

"It was happening about a mile or so from the flightpath into the airport and must have been seen by aircraft passengers."

But the heavenly display has a very earthly explanation.

A spokesman for the Civil Aviation Authority said: "I am afraid it was nothing more than a laser display by a Manchester nightclub. They are very responsible people and they came to us for advice so as not to affect aircraft."

And for anyone who missed it, the city centre Millionaire Nightspot's high intensity lasers will be searching the night skies each evening for the remainder of the week.

A spokesman for the club said: "No, it was not unidentified flying objects! It was simply four light beams at the club.

"We had the police on about it last night and again this morning asking if it was us. It seems to have caused quite a stir."

STOCKPORT EXPRESS
ADVERTISER 17.10.90

EVENING GAZETTE 18.10.90

BUFORA NEWSCLIPPING SERVICE

Eyes skyward for signs that they are about to land

THE nights are drawing in and soon they will be on their way, streaking through the sky faster than light and laughing like drains about the way we still peel potatoes.

These visitors from outer space used to come in daylight to look at places like London, Ipswich, Bury St. Edmunds and Colchester — and to show-off a bit. But the UFO drivers, with their very advanced technology, quickly spotted that the busy British only look up at night, so they changed their modus operandi.

Besides, they could never find anywhere to park in town.

Flying saucers with glowing portholes are the most frequent visitors and they are almost certainly the ones playing silly games in the cornfields — childish, but at least it proves they have a sense of humour.

Others are described as cigar-shaped or cylindrical and one spotted near Bury St. Edmunds earlier this year was said to look like a pint mug. I have not yet been vouchsafed a glimpse of a UFO but when it happens I will be quite happy for it to look like a beer mug or, better still, a wine glass.

In a field

Of course, all that glisters in the night is not necessarily pure space gold. Some years ago a lady driving along the A45 near Woolpit sped away from two flying saucers parked in a ploughed field before she could be zapped by their positronic ray guns.

They were, she said, about eight feet in diameter,



By David Henshall

brownish-green and had four or six lights on top. Investigating police discovered the saucers exactly where she said they would be — liquid manure containers which glowed in the car headlights.

Why, you are probably asking yourself, is the *Lighter Side* babbling on about UFOs? Well, I read the other day that there is a group of people in Britain who not only "know" that space beings drop in on us regularly, but are equally convinced that they kidnap earthlings on the way.

This is pretty challenging stuff and not easily cast aside by a broadminded column. What the heck happens to these prisoners, I want to know. Are they carried off to faraway planets as slaves or to have unspeakable experiments done on them?

Are they perhaps brainwashed with Barbarella delights and sent back as fifth columnists against the time when the Vulcans want to take over the earth? Or are they just given a mach 20 joyride round the heavens, brought back and sent home happy with a stick of Venusian rock by jolly little creatures looking remarkably like ET?

The evidence is a bit thin, but Malcolm Jacobs can clear up one point right away: "They're not like those midgets on film. They're about seven feet tall, like basketball players."

Malcolm Jacobs is a member of Bufora (the British Unidentified Flying Object Research Association) and, he says, "We can tell you exactly who they are. They come from a distant universe of four planets. They are using Patricia to make people aware of what we are doing to our own planet and what that means for the whole solar system."

"Patricia" is Patricia Mee another member of the association and one of the Bufologists invited to a special showing of the latest space film, *Communion*. Based on Whitley Strieber's book, it stars Christopher Walken and is about people who are abducted by aliens.

In the film, Walken plays an American writer who, according to one critic, "communes with small blue men who seem to have escaped from the *Doctor Who* props cupboard."

The Bufologists had been invited to compare the screen experiences with their own — hence Malcolm's scathing remark about the size of the men from outer space. "I know they exist," he said in a report. "The questions we should be asking are what can we learn from them and what we can offer them."

Patricia, like Malcolm, comes from Stretford, near Manchester, has always known there was something different about her and firmly believes she was placed here by aliens. "As a kid I

was always looking up at the sky," she recalls.

"I couldn't go to bed without saying goodnight to the stars." In her teens, Patricia felt isolated, confused and saw unexplained lights, but it was not until her early 20s that she had her first real cosmic experience.

Her clairvoyant cousin rang up and told her to expect a message. One night after everybody had gone, Patricia was sitting alone in her office and shut her eyes. When she opened them again there, written on a piece of paper in front of her, were the words, "Hello, I'm here to help you."

That was eight years ago. "Ultimately the planet is crying out for help and that cry is being heard by people who know what harmony is, who have learnt," she says.

Patricia is a bit short on detail. Not like a chap from Essex who told a Bufora researcher he had been abducted by ugly creatures with hair on their faces. If they also had spiky orange, green or purple hair with round antenna hanging from their ears and nose, I may have seen some of those

myself.

In America many ufologists claim there is an official conspiracy of silence by a government that knows more than it is telling but then the Americans

absolutely love conspiracy theories. There is even a book just published which alleges Jack Kennedy was assassinated because he was about to spill the beans on UFOs.

This column, fearless as

ever, although unconvinced about the abductions, leans to the idea that machines from other planets, possibly piloted by creatures of whatever size or hue, may well be over-flying earth.

After all, right now the U.S. spacecraft *Magellan* is orbiting Venus, weighing up its waterless oceans and archipelagos, peering at its peninsulas, isthmuses and islands, the camera creeping into its crevices, capes and craters and transmitting all the data back to base. If we have the technology, who is to say other planets are not even further advanced?

I'll bet that right this minute on Venus there is somebody pointing skywards and shouting "There, did you see it, Athelmoser? Looks just like a champagne flute with three maraschino cherries on top. Going like a bat out of hell. Better ring the police."

"The earthlings have come."

UFO was an airship

PURBECK residents thought they saw a UFO in the night sky on Sunday. Dorset police received a flood of calls reporting 'a thing in the sky with lights' but it was believed to be an airship similar to the Fuji Film craft which has been flying over the Dorset coast recently.

SWANAGE ADVERTISER

13.09.90

EAST ANGLIAN DAILY TIMES 03.10.90

Page 12 CP STANDARD RECORDER Thursday, August 9, 1990

UFO sighted over holiday camp

A SHOOTING UFO had a South East Essex stargazer reaching for the skies as a glowing white light zoomed across the night sky.

Garden centre supervisor Julia Diggins was walking

home from work on Canvey when she spotted the single light hundreds of feet high.

The light, above King's holiday camp, sped along for some distance before changing direction in mid air.

Julia, 23, of Hart Road, Thundersley was transfixed for minutes as the strange object lit up the skies.

She said: "I didn't have a clue what it was. I didn't know whether it was a shooting star

that had hit something and been forced to change direction. "I have never seen anything like it."

The UFO sighting comes during a lull in reportings of unexplained objects.

BUFORA NEWS CUTTING SERVICE

Inter-Space 1 unes Make Earth Debut In a Bar in Illinois

* * *
Pianist-Singer Claims Aliens
Taught Her Their Music;
Do They Get Royalties?

By ROBERT JOHNSON

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

PEORIA, Ill.—Connie Cook tickles her electric piano keys and strives to sing above the happy-hour chaos in O'Leary's, a singles bar. She fails. Her recital, preceded by a lingerie show and an Elvis Presley impersonator, is tuned out by most of the 100 or so patrons while a televised Chicago Cubs baseball game drones on.

This crowd couldn't hear a message sent by aliens from outer space—and that, Ms. Cook asserts, is precisely what her music is. In 1981, she says, she saw an unidentified flying object whose passengers later entered her consciousness and inspired the music.

What kind of music do aliens like? No punk or heavy metal, thanks, but instead a dreamy sort of jazz and soft-rock fusion with lyrics—translated from the lingo of the Pleiades star cluster where the aliens claim to hail from—like this:

*"By and by we learn to fly
Within each other's heart.
Space and time the ancient rhyme
Is overcome in our heart."*

Solid platinum it isn't. The record industry is beating no path to Ms. Cook's door. But some critics, musicologists and record-industry people who have listened to her tapes find her music intriguing. "I don't know who her collaborators are, but there's something other-worldly about her songs," says David Wild, a senior writer at Rolling Stone magazine.

"She's using some notes that seem to come from somewhere else; a few don't even translate to music paper," says Jim Vennet, a Chicago record producer and musicologist. "Technically, they don't exist," he says—on this planet, at least. Ms. Cook has had her pianos tuned to produce notes that sound vaguely Far Eastern, or even from beyond.

Ms. Cook says her first close encounter came late one night in November 1981, when a gleaming, globe-shaped craft hovered silently outside her bedroom window for about 90 minutes. Mesmerized, she returned to bed when it left. Soon after, she dreamed of seeing four shiny people with indistinct features "sort of standing in the sky." She later dreamed the four beings were at her bedside, stroking her hands and predicting a time of "good will for the Earth's peoples." They explained they were appearing in human form so as not to frighten her.



Connie Cook

A month later, inspired telepathically, sometimes in dreams, she began compulsively composing music, she says. Previously without a piano, she now has two. "Before that I couldn't play 'Chopsticks,' and I still can't. But sometimes music just flows out of me, and I write it down."

Are there musical Martians? Virtuosos on Venus? Orchestras beyond Orion? Will little green men someday demand to be taken to our band leader?

No Reports, Please

Military and aerospace officials doubt it but concede they aren't really trying to detect music from the spheres. "We don't even take reports anymore, even if you said a flying saucer just landed in your yard," says Capt. Sigmund Adams of the Air Force Readiness Support Branch. After chasing down 12,618 reports of UFOs between 1948 and 1969, the Readiness Support Branch has packed it in—even though 701 sightings remain unexplained by ordinary phenomena.

"Budget restraints keep us from listening" for signals from space, says Michael Klein, project manager of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence. "NASA is not at this time carrying out a search, even though people think we are."

NASA's two unmanned Voyager missions, launched in 1977, carry music recordings to the outer edges of the galaxy, four billion miles (6.4 billion kilometers) away, in case anybody out there wants to listen. Songs on the gold-plated albums aboard include Chuck Berry's "Johnny B. Goode," the "Pigmy Girl's Initiation Song" from *Please, Turn to Page 10, Column 1* Zaire and a Mexican mariachi melody.

Any beings who track that music to Earth should steer clear of Peoria's environs, however, says Ms. Cook's mother, Genevieve Cook, a retired office worker. She says aliens just wouldn't play in Peoria. "The yahoos around here would blast away with their shotguns at anything that moved if they thought aliens were out there," she says.

Except for her space music thing, Connie Cook is Ms. Middle America: a 42-year-old divorced housewife raising a sixth-grader. Pretty and plump, she favors print dresses and strawberry cheesecake. Her father was a postman. She twirled the baton in high school, where she played a snare drum in the band. After eight piano lessons from a teacher who rapped her knuckles for frequent mistakes, she quit music until her strange inspiration nine years ago.

"I believe too much in science and religion to swallow UFOs, so I would think Connie's pulling something if I didn't see her play," says her sister, Carolyn Cook. "Those just aren't her fingers on the keys."

But astronomers such as Carl Sagan don't want to hear it. "Grandma Moses took up painting at about 70, and she didn't see aliens," he says.

Ms. Cook sings some of her alien songs to children in Sunday school at Unity Church of Peoria. Says the Rev. Eddie Edwards, "Connie is a sincere and stable person who has had some kind of an experience. I don't know what."

Jon Engberg, associate director of academic affairs at the University of Roches-

ter's Eastman School of Music, has listened to a Cook tape supplied by a reporter. "I think she has had some serious musical training," he says. Another tape listener, Wahaba Heartsun, publisher of Heartsong Review, a new-age music magazine, says Ms. Cook's music "is moving and inspired, with a very sweet quality of innocence."

So why aren't record companies swooping to sign her up? One reason is given by a spokesman for Narada Productions Inc., a Milwaukee record company. He says too much popular music is already accused of being inspired by devil worship or other cults. "Any notion that the company is selling music inspired by UFOs would be too controversial."

Ms. Cook says she wants to share the aliens' music, not profit from it. That may be a good thing, too, because she might find it hard to comply with U.S. copyright law, which requires that income from music be split between composers and inspirational collaborators. But if Ms. Cook ever has a hit, says Todd Brabec, spokesman for the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers, "We would help the aliens get paid, like anyone else. If we have their address." The only one Ms. Cook has is the Pleiades star cluster—with no postal code yet.

If history is any guide, Ms. Cook has some chance of landing in the Top 40. After all, Sheb Wooley made it to No. 1 with "The Purple People Eater" in 1958, the Ran-Dells to No. 16 with "Martian Hop" in 1963, and the Five Blobs to No. 33 with "The Blob" in 1958. None of these performers had the benefit of inspiration from outer space. As far as is known.

WALL STREET JOURNAL

EUROPE 11.09.90

Teacher spots UFO

A TERRIFIED school teacher and then disappeared from early hours of the morning by a UFO.

The shocked man from Leighton Road, West Ealing, woke his partner but the mystery flying object was nowhere to be seen.

He said: "I have no idea at all what it was. It was very eerie." Neither the Ministry of Defence or RAF Northolt could throw any light on the sighting.

EALING GAZETTE 13.04.90

BUFORA NEWS CUTTING SERVICE

UFO — or was it just a touch of the moon?

ABAFFLED Leckhampton man has seen the light — but he's still very much in the dark.

The skywatcher spotted a mysterious amber glow hovering in the sky when he was walking his dog in a field about 100 yards from Daisybank Road.

"I was looking across the town and suddenly this very strong amber light appeared. It would have been somewhere over Pilley Bridge. It was very, very bright."

"It moved very slowly towards me," he said. "There was a movement of air, but the light did not keep on a constant path."

"Then it stopped and kept still, went off to a pinprick, then disappeared altogether."

This ethereal experience lasted about 30 seconds.

"I am not suggesting it was a UFO. I am sure it can be explained rationally. But I am curious to know what it was," says Ferret's informant who, understandably, does not wish to be named.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE ECHO 11.09.90

UFO story is just hot air!

SHOCKED Colin Chambers thought he saw a spaceship flying over his house on Sunday night.

Mr Chambers, of Mudford Road, Yeovil, was feeding foxes in his garden when he looked up to see bright lights flashing on a cylindrical object moving across the sky.

He ran to get his wife Gillian who was amazed at the sight. "It was fantastic to see the bright lights. The object was moving

Police said they had no reports of any mysterious lights being seen in the sky that evening.

Ken Sheldon of Cotswold Astronomical society reckons the only logical reason for the mystery light is the moon rising: "If he was looking towards the north east he could easily have seen a full moon rising into mist, which could have given an orange glow."

Explanation by way of UFOs and little green men are definitely out, he says.

More than one

"As with all UFO events, if there is one, several people normally report it."

"Whenever it happens there is usually more than one."

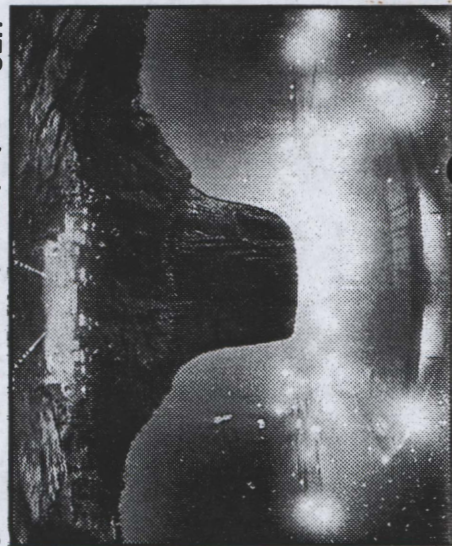
Ken says he hasn't experienced anything like it himself, and refuses to accept UFO theories until proved otherwise.

"I have heard about people seeing strange objects and strange lights. Until I see something I cannot explain I shall continue to look for a logical explanation."

WESTERN GAZETTE 13.09.90

BUFORA NEWSCUTTING SERVICE

UFOs... do they exist outside the movies?



Ed's close encounters

IS IT only cranks who believe in flying saucers? If so, some have been very highly placed. The late Lucille Ball told of Ronald and Nancy Reagan turning up late for a dinner party.

"The Reagans were all out of breath and excited and said they couldn't help being late. They had seen a UFO and stopped to watch it. After he was elected President, I wondered if he'd still have won if he'd told everybody he'd seen a flying saucer."

UFOs: THE GULF BREEZE SIGHTINGS Ed & Frances Walters (Banham, £14.99)

Everyone laughed at Ed Walters, a down-to-earth Florida property developer, when he wrote to his local newspaper with Polaroid photos of gleaming bright flying saucers. "Polaroids are hard to tamper with," says the editor. Ed was given a sealed camera, which also took pictures of a glowing blue-grey craft.

There were 20 sightings in 1987-8, several witnessed by others, including Ed's wife Frances. No little green men emerged, only one small occupant with black staring eyes which "seemed shiny and wet, the way a person's eyes look just before they begin to cry."

Most of these close encounters were very frightening. "Bang! Something hit me. I was in a blue light beam. My brain was being squeezed and felt like it was going to crack."

If Walters is a hoaxer, and two lie detector tests have said he is not, he deserves this year's Booker Prize for Fiction. His accounts have remained consistent but rich in detail.

He also noticed dried out circles of grass like our own crop circles. In PHANTOMS OF THE SKY — UFOs A Modern Myth? (Robert Hale £12.95) David Clarke and Andy Roberts take a more sceptical view.

DAILY EXPRESS 09.08.93