

BUFORA NEWSFILE

Issue Number 62

June 1997

BAFFLED stargazers were today trying to unravel the truth behind a mystery object seen in the skies over Lincoln.

Residents in the Boultham Park Road area were left scratching their heads after tracking a bright flashing object for more than half an hour as they scanned the skies for a glimpse of the Hale-Bopp comet.

Brian Blades (58), of Boultham Park Road, was so startled when he saw the UFO, he went round to neighbours' homes to see what they made of it.

"I was looking for the comet through binoculars when my attention was caught by a series of bright lights high in the sky," he said.

"They were flashing red, green and white. All I can liken it to is like the lights you get at a disco. It definitely wasn't an aeroplane, it was too high up and moving too slowly.

"I went round to my neighbours and they'd seen exactly the same thing. It was a round rotating object and we're all at a loss to explain what it was."

The object was first spotted at around 9.30pm on Friday. After watching it until just

by **Jason Mellor**

after 10pm, residents say it disappeared over RAF Waddington towards Newark.

"I've always been very sceptical about this kind of thing, but now I'm not so sure. Maybe there is something out there after all," added Mr Blades who has lived in the area for 30 years.

The report is the latest in a string of mystery sightings in the county's skies — believed to be a hotbed of UFO activity — in the past few months.

One of the most notable sightings late last year was a mystery object tracked by RAF radar along the county's coast, which was also recorded on video by Skegness police.

● **Did you see the UFO? Call the Echo hotline on 01522 540001.**

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SALE & ALTRINCHAM MESSENGER

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Rescue mystery

A SALE UFO expert claims there has been a cover-up to hide the truth about a mystery crash in the Peak District.

Stephen Mera believes a top secret military aircraft came down there last month - and that the armed services immediately swooped to clear up the wreckage.

His group MAPIT - Manchester Anomalous Phenomena

Investigation Team - has been probing the 'crash' near the Ladybower Reservoir in the Peak District since there were reports of people hearing a loud explosion and seeing a white flash of light, at around 10pm on Monday, March 24.

Stephen, of Paignton Drive, Ashton on Mersey, believes the search and rescue operation launched involved police, mountain rescue teams, the RAF and Army.

A recording was also made of a sonic boom in Leeds at just after 10pm on March 24 - which Stephen believes was made by a military aircraft.

He says: "I believe the incident at Ladybower may have been a top secret military aircraft coming down in the area."

A South Yorkshire Police spokesman says: "We received several reports from people who believed they had seen a light aircraft going down. We launched a seven hour search involving 11 search and rescue teams and an RAF Sea King helicopter. But we did not find anything."



Stephen Mera - searching for an answer

BRIGHTON EVENING ARGUS

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Lights 'spoil night'

A BATTLE is looming for the skies over Worthing after an UFO scare.

Police switchboards were jammed with reports of close encounters when a pattern of lights started appearing on clouds.

Astronomers

But the effect was in fact caused by a new "space flower" spotlight, on the roof of the Mansion House restaurant, on the outskirts of town.

The light has infuriated

Worthing's astronomers, who say it is obscuring their view of heavenly bodies like Comet Hale-Bopp.

Now the High Court has ruled that the lights count as advertising and need planning permission.

Richard Pipe of the Chapman Group, which owns Mansion House, said: "The lights are on for only six hours a week and turned off at 12.30am."

Worthing Council debates the issue on May 20.

TIMECODE

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UFO FILES

There's more extraterrestrial activity on show in the latest UFO Files release. Interest in such things is high at the moment and these interesting documentaries are shifting a good few units.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

Visual	Out May 26
Cert: E	Running Time 60 mins

THE NIGHT I SAW A U.F.O.

Unidentified Flying Objects. They Exist. I Know. I've Seen One.

There are people in this world who are confined to narrow-thinking. There are people in this world who actually believe that Earth is the only planet on which life exists.

They are normally the same people who scoff at the likes of me when I say that I have seen a UFO. Well, I scoff at their ignorance.

There are billions of planets — no-one in their right mind can actually stand up and say that Earth is the only one to evolve life. No-one.

Yet, most of the time when I tell this tale, sorry, factual story, I find that half of the time people either think I'm lying or mad.

To cut to the chase, the incident which caused me to believe started two years ago on Saturday, 16 August.

My parents were at a concert and I had volunteered to pick them up. I left my parents house in Moodiesburn and headed towards the Edmiston Club at Ibrox where The Drifters were playing.

It was a clear night with only a few clouds scattered here and there. Basically, nothing out of the ordinary. My dad, Robert and my mum, Margaret came out of the building along

with their two friends Jim and Jean. The four of them lumbered into the car and I set off home.

Jim and Jean stayed in Muirhead, a small town about half a mile from Moodiesburn, so I intended to drop them off first.

Very ordinary

The night was still very ordinary, but not for long. Well apart from every one singing in the car, but to me that's ordinary.

When I saw the cut off for Muirhead, I indicated, checked my mirrors and then drove into the town. I checked the clock it was 12.45am.

Then looking ahead something above the street lights caught my eye.

My dad drew in a breath. My mum cried out: "What is that?"

All five of us sat in the car in shock. We could hardly speak and then it moved. It darted left for about twenty metres and then turned up and shot through the star-riddled night sky.

It passed through a cloud which lit up in a slight colour of green for a few milliseconds — then it was gone.

No man-made invention can fly that fast.

Chatter erupted in the car as everyone spoke of the incident. Jean had difficulty in believing what she had seen.

When I dropped

'News' reporter Scott Rhodie came face to face with a 'flying saucer'

it was hovering 40 metres above us in the middle of the street.

I checked my mirror and pulled in.

For an eternity I stared at the ship. A million thoughts were racing through my head. Who was in it? How does it work? Where was it from? Where do I get one?

It was graceful and perfectly balanced. No noise came from it.

It was shaped like a tear drop lying on its side made from liquid metal, approximately ten metres long, at the centre most point it was white and as you looked along it towards the front and back, the colour changed from white to green and the further along you looked the more shadowy it became.

All five of us sat in the car in shock. We could hardly speak and then it moved. It darted left for about twenty metres and then turned up and shot through the star-riddled night sky.

Earlier last year, whilst driving in the Campus Fells, my friend Douglas and I watched two crafts lance across the sky in a manner that no civilian or military craft, to my knowledge, can do.

Now I am not saying that you should believe in the existence of U.F.O.'s just because I do. But when you learn that thousands of people in every country in the world all claim to have

everyone off they were still speaking about the craft and how it flew.

I sat quietly and contemplated. Before "the incident" I had thought that life on other planets was a possibility. Now, I now it's a certainty.

The next day I picked up the paper and inside there was a small story that hundreds of people had phoned the police saying that they had seen a UFO.

A spokesperson had said that a meteorite crossed the Scottish skies in the early hours of the morning.

Meteorites don't hover and they don't go up. I know what I saw and I believe.

Flying saucer

Although this was my first sighting, it was the second that my father had seen. When he was younger he had watched a "flying saucer" dart about the sea in Guemsey. Hundreds of people had seen the phenomenon.

Earlier last year, whilst driving in the Campus Fells, my friend Douglas and I watched two crafts lance across the sky in a manner that no civilian or military craft, to my knowledge, can do.

Now I am not saying that you should believe in the existence of U.F.O.'s just because I do. But when you learn that thousands of people in every country in the world all claim to have

seen these ships, you should at least contemplate the possibility.

Last year, the Head of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Daniel Goldin confirmed that a six-inch fossil had been found in the remains of a meteor from Mars.

If it was possible for life to have existed that close to us, then there is probably a bigger chance that life exists on other planets and if so, then there is another possibility that they are more advanced than us.

After all, it only took us Earthlings 66 years to go from the first aircraft manned by the Wright brothers to Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin walking on the moon.

Another problem is that whenever I discuss my sighting, people always ask me "If there are aliens then why don't they land and speak to us?"

I always answer,

If you were intelligent enough to create crafts that can fly from solar system to solar system, would you land on a planet where the people are constantly killing, maiming, hurting and stealing from one another and where the



Reporter Scott Rhodie wonders where the UFO came from?

divide between the rich and the poor is constantly increasing? Would you talk to a race who are on the brink of self-destruction, just because some people want to get rich? Would you talk to a selfish and ignorant race? To be honest, if I was an alien I'd give the planet Earth a wide berth.

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Have you seen the UFO?

OLIVER Thornton and his friend, Graham Hersey, are interested to know if anyone else saw what they believe to have been a UFO in the skies over Crowborough on Sunday evening.

Oliver is presently at home from university and said he and Graham had been taking a short-cut through the grave yard in Herne Road between 9.20pm and 9.30pm when they spotted a glowing red disc, about 1-2cm across travelling quickly through the sky.

Oliver said they knew it was nothing to do with the comet Hale-Bopp which can currently be seen.

"It was in the wrong

part of the sky," he said. "It was travelling in a north-east direction and was going too quickly for an aeroplane."

Oliver said he and his friend had been doing a bit of star-gazing recently to identify the comet and also to learn the different groupings of stars.

Unusual

"My friend is also a bird watcher, which helps him pick things out that are a bit unusual," he said.

Anyone else who saw this object or who may know what it could have been can contact Jan Purves, chief reporter on 01892 663132, who will put you in touch with Oliver.

EAST SUSSEX COURIER

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Star-gazers in UFO encounter

A family who stood outside to look for a comet got more than they bargained for.

They saw a blazing shape with 15 lights flying towards Cheltenham. It seemed to change shape as it travelled from Uckington, over Arle and towards Lansdown. It was one of two UFO sightings in Cheltenham on March 19.

The father, who asked not to be named, said: "It was extremely low, no more than 100ft high. All we heard was a low engine or humming noise."

The family were standing outside their home in Lansdown, Cheltenham, looking for the Comet Hale Bopp.

Robin Cole, head of investigations for the Circular Forum, a Cheltenham-based UFO society, said: "Having spoken with the family at some length and looking at the course and angle of the object and the local landmarks, I can't see that there's any other logical explanation."

"At this height and size other people must have seen it and we would ask them to speak to us in confidence."

Mr Cole said he received another report of a pulsating light moving low among trees on Cleeve Hill the same evening.

To contact Mr Cole, ring 577629 or 0973 778906.

UFOs really are more than they first seem

UFO sightings on the up

THE mysteries of UFO sightings and crop circles will be discussed at a conference in Dorchester this weekend.

Local researcher David Kingston claims the area is now recording some of the highest numbers of sightings in the country - with a 50 per cent increase in the past year.

His research shows 118 sightings last year, more than half of them attributed to military exercises, helicopters and meteorites - leaving 58 which have no logical explanation. Some have been reported by teachers, computer programmers and even a police officer.

In the last two months the area has had three separate reports.

Among the most notable were reports of a triangular craft hovering over a road at Bockhampton and dozens of people reporting a UFO over the Piddle Valley several weeks after that.

Mr Kingston says people are becoming less concerned about being called cranks when reporting UFOs and interest has been increased by television programmes such as the X-Files.



THE phenomena of UFOs has become a very popular interest with people during recent years, partly due to the success of television programmes such as the X-Files, while Dan O'Neill has ridiculed the subject on several occasions in the Echo.

People are still continuing to debate whether or not such things really do exist. Unfortunately most of these people (at least within the media) are unaware and apathetic as to what is really going on and the quantity of the evidence that is now available.

What many sceptics don't realise is that the belief in UFOs that many people have is not based on faith, which is what many religions are based upon.

The fact is that most people's belief in the UFO phenomenon is based upon evidence. If it were not for UFO evidence I would not believe in such things myself, though it is perfectly rational to believe that Earth is not the only planet where intelligent life evolved.

Most UFO sightings have a very rational explanation (such as planets, the aurora borealis, aircraft landing lights etc), but there are many which completely defy any understanding.

These unexplained UFOs seem to cause people to behave very irrationally. Some scientists, when confronted with compelling evidence for UFOs, seem to forget what science is all about.

People like astronomer Patrick Moore will tell you that all talk of UFOs is "rubbish", labelling all those who believe in such things as "the crazy gang".

Such members of this "crazy gang" who believe in and have seen UFOs include pilots (some of the best trained observers), astronauts, astronomers (including Dr Clyde Tombaugh who discovered Pluto in 1930, and who is a good friend of Patrick Moore), the list goes on.

Such people's testimony cannot be taken lightly. Remember that eyewitness testimony can send a person to prison, so why then is this not good enough when it comes to UFOs?

I suggest that the problems people have with accepting UFOs does not lie with the evidence, it lies within the individual. A common mistake is to suggest that UFOs are creations of the mind is not going to suddenly make the mark on the ground caused by a

YOUR SAY

CHRIS FOWLER became interested in UFOs after he and a friend saw an unexplained grey light shooting across the skies above Cardiff in 1991. The moment only lasted two seconds but it was enough to spark off an interest in the unknown.

Since then, jobless Mr Fowler, from Witlea Court Road, Rumney, has seen many other strange lights hovering or flashing through the night skies and calls to the airport, coastguard and police have provided no answers.

Today, Mr Fowler talks about why he believes in the phenomena of UFOs.

UFO heal up and vanish.

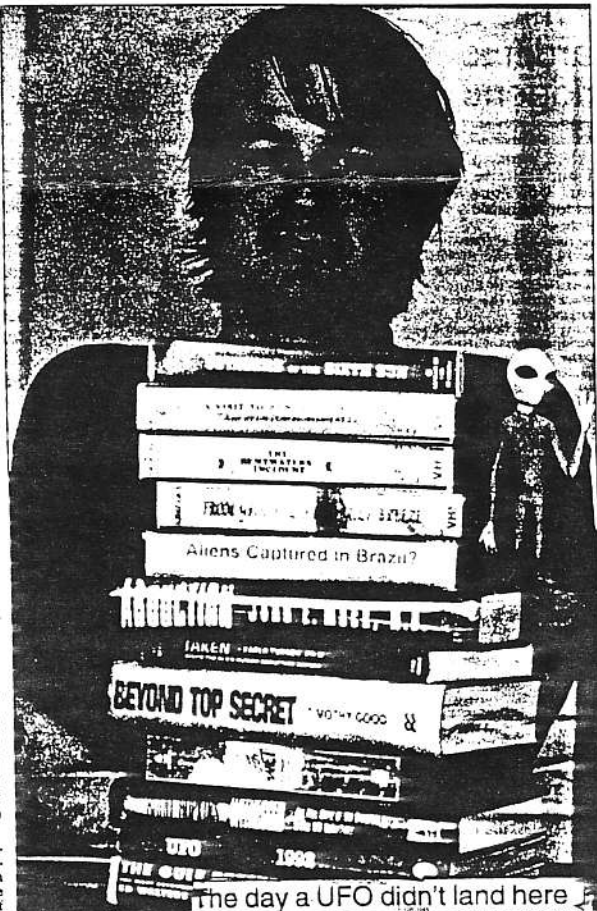
If all the available evidence for UFOs was examined by a jury, the decision would be unanimous. There have been thousands of cases where physical evidence has been left after a UFO has been seen, hundreds of cases where UFOs have collided in mid air with aircraft.

Though such incidents do not prove that UFOs are of an extraterrestrial origin, it does nevertheless prove 100 per cent that such things are real physical objects. This is an inescapable fact.

Now that we know that UFOs are real, we now have to ask the question "who do these objects belong to?"

Either they have a military connection or they are of a non-human origin.

If the latter is true then we have to examine the possibility, a very uncomfortable one for many, that they have come from elsewhere and belong to a non-human intelligence.



UFO BUFF: Chris Fowler, with books detailing unexplained sightings. And inset, a flashback to Dan O'Neill's 1995 article.

It may be the case that some of the people who claim to have had contact with non-human beings (in events that are now known as 'alien abductions') have been telling the truth and are not deluded or suffering from sleep paralysis.

Is it not merely a coincidence that the same objects people report that these beings come from are identical to the objects that are turning up on video film and Radar?

Either conclusion we wish to come to, we, as a whole,

are no doubt being very foolish by not paying serious attention to UFOs.

John Major has recently been asked by more than one MP if he would allocate resources to evaluating UFO sightings.

In reply he said: "The government have no plans to allocate resources to researching extraterrestrial phenomena."

One would think that they would be concerned when even the MoD's own files (held in the Public Records Office) contain reports that

confirm the reality of UFOs.

Perhaps the government's lack of public concern indicates that behind the scenes they are indeed looking in to such things?

The bottom line is that what we are taught, is not necessarily what really is. The process of changing how we view the world and ourselves is a very hard one, just as it was back in 1911 when C. S. Lewis' book 'On The Revolution Of Celestial Spheres' was first published.

SHROPSHIRE STAR

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Astonished Shropshire residents looked to the skies in disbelief today after seeing what they believe were two flying saucers shimmering across the horizon.

There were two separate sightings, a few miles apart, near Shrewsbury and over part of Telford. The Ministry of Defence is investigating.

Sheila Roberts spotted two shining discs at precisely 6.48am, speeding silently across the sky towards Haughton Hill, near Shrewsbury.

Mrs Roberts said she was gazing through her bedroom window in Bridgford Way, Monkmoor, when the objects came into view.

"I was sitting on the edge of my bed drinking my tea and smoking a cigarette thinking how it was going to be another wet day."

"All of a sudden I saw two shiny discs gliding smoothly, not like an aircraft, through the sky. They made no engine sound, were moving quite fast, and were sort of bright white-ish and shimmering."

Meanwhile, Jim Dunlop, of Ashbourne Close, Dawley, spotted similar objects in the sky around 9.30am.

Mr Dunlop, who was driving to Leegomery with his fiancée, Glynis Roberts, said: "They were moving quite fast, I could not see any smoke. They were definitely not aircraft."

Happy birthday, aliens, and come on down to the party

The aliens are coming, and we Earthlings are at their mercy. Already, advance parties of strange beings roam our planet. You could pass one in the street and notice nothing unusual. But inside, their heads are seething with little green men.

They are the ufologists and their time is now. It is 50 years since the first report of a "flying saucer", a phrase coined by a local newspaper after Kenneth Arnold, an experienced pilot, said he had observed a "chain of nine peculiar-looking craft" at a distance of about 20 miles while flying over the Cascade mountains in Washington state.

To mark the occasion, thousands of UFO enthusiasts are going to celebrate. True, the Pentagon issued a formal statement earlier this month to the effect that UFOs are not spacecraft, it is not hiding captured aliens and it does not think there are any out there.

But the Pentagon would say that, wouldn't it? It's all part of the cover-up, retort the ufologists. Besides, last week scientists studying photographs from the Galileo space probe announced that life probably exists on Europa, one of Jupiter's moons. If there, why not elsewhere?

So, as well as a host of books and films, a series of commemorative conventions is planned. Only one thing is lacking: a personal appearance by a "star" speaker. For intergalactic travellers planning their annual holidays, there is no better time to drop in on Earth.

Ufologists are about to have a ball, finds Richard Woods

Next weekend the place to beam down to will be the Institute of Education in London, where the Fortean Times — a monthly journal of the paranormal whose circulation has doubled to 60,000 in three years — is staging an "unconvention" around the UFO theme. More than 1,000 people will be treated to talks on such subjects as a woman's abduction in 1989 from her 12th-floor apartment in New York by three aliens, who took her off in a UFO. According to Budd Hopkins, a ufologist who has studied about 600 "abductions", the event was witnessed by several people. Alas, the only witness he actually names is now dead.

Should we be afraid? The British UFO Research Association (Bufora) is not: it is holding a convention-cum-party in Sheffield this summer. Nor are the estimated 150,000 people expected to descend on Roswell, New Mexico, afraid.

Roswell is the site of one of the most enduring mysteries in the UFO world: did the American military recover parts of an alien spacecraft, and possibly the bodies of extraterrestrials, after an object exploded during a storm in 1947? And has it covered up the find ever since?



High-earner: Mars Attacks!

Jim Moseley, a veteran American UFO watcher, has no doubts. "There was no crash, other than a highly classified military balloon project. No spaceship or little green men. That was all made up along the way," he said last week.

The real phenomenon is how the few bits of metal foil and balsa wood found at Roswell became an alien presence that has gripped the minds of millions. A survey by Newsweek last year revealed that 48% of Americans believe in UFOs.

One of the few certainties about UFOs is the amount of money they have generated. The paranormal and alien are now being abducted by little grey men in suits who communicate only in numbers: accountants

from the office rather than outer space. The X Files is watched by more than 7m in Britain. Independence Day, last year's blockbuster loosely based on the Roswell incident, grossed £500m worldwide. The spoof Mars Attacks! is the current money-spinner and more alien movies are imminent.

Jenny Randles, the author of some sceptical books about UFO sightings, says money and sensation-seeking are destroying serious ufology research. She says 95% of sightings turn out to be cases of mistaken identity. The trouble is that not only is it easy to misconstrue ordinary events; many people want to believe in things they do not understand.

Randles cites the case of a strange ball of fire that appeared in the sky over Oxfordshire in 1973. A jet fighter from an American airbase had crashed about 40 miles away. The military refused to release the findings of its investigation and speculation grew that it was covering up evidence of a UFO which had brought down the jet. In fact, says Randles, the pilots had been dumping fuel, which had ignited. "But there are still 5% of cases that are unresolved," she said.

Some of these will remain beyond the realm of our understanding. To rule out anything — including little green men — in a universe so little understood, would be foolish. After all, the aliens may just be waiting for a suitably enthusiastic reception. So let the ufologists party.

Debut of the East Coast UFO

By CATHERINE SMYTH

EXCITING video footage of a triangular shaped unidentified flying object over the East Coast will be given its first public showing on April 26 in Burnley.

The Lancashire UFO society has been given the film, taken at 3pm by a 20-year-old air craft enthusiast, and is going to make it the star attraction at its meeting in the Tudor Room of the Burnley Mechanics.

Chairman Tim Matthews said: "This is going to be better than going to the cinema."

"People are going to hear a lot more about this footage in the future and we are giving people in East Lancashire the first chance to see it."

Evidence

"There will be a talk on UFOs and video evidence and we will be trying to show the public that UFO sightings are made during the day and we have photographs and video evidence."

"There has been huge UFO activity in Mexico for the last five years but many people don't know about it so we will be showing films from there and also footage shot in Russia."

"Some of it is pretty remarkable and changes people's minds about the phenomenon."

The talk costs £4 and 25 concessions and will begin at 7.30pm.

The society is investigating reports from Early, Barnoldswick and Burnley of aerial lights being seen on the border between Lancashire and Yorkshire.

Mr Matthews added: "If anyone sees anything they wish to report to us I would be pleased if they could contact me on 01704 540322."

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SUGGESTIONS that flying saucers might be under the control of the Devil have been brought down to earth by a local rector.

Stephen Bailey, Rector of Betchworth and Buckland, says yet again people seem to be demonising the things they don't understand.

"If an alien intelligence did fly thousands of light years across the universe to visit us, are we seriously going to accuse it of being in league with the Devil?" he asks. "It makes you wonder if we'll ever learn."

What prompted the rector's views is a report in the Church Times about a new group called UFO Concern, which claims alien intelligences are operating increasingly among mankind.

The founder of the group, a retired admiral, has claimed the subjective influence of UFOs is essentially a religious matter.

And he says that quite often UFO encounters were antithetical to Christian belief.

The rector says that throughout history the church has been quick to condemn things it appears uncomfortable with.

BY CHRIS PORTER

"We did it at the time of the Crusades with Muslims and found it a great excuse to ravage their lands," he writes in his parish magazine.

"We did it with illnesses such as epilepsy. And even now some people claim that things like mental illness and homosexuality are the result of satanic influences."

Another member of the group, the editor of Flying Saucer Review, said his readers had become increasingly concerned with "the UFO problem" and were becoming convinced that UFOs were under satanic control.

Says the rector: "I don't know about you but I can't see that the alien problem is significant enough to detect let alone determine whether or not it's satanic."

Mr Bailey has a handy tip for any residents of Betchworth or Buckland, who believe they might be living next door to an extraterrestrial being.

Apparently there are now little badges on sale which glow in the presence of an alien!

UFO appeal to star-gazers

SKY watchers who saw unusual lights in the south to south-west sky last Saturday at around 7.30-8.30pm are urged to contact the British UFO Research Association. The North-east branch is particularly keen to see any photos or film footage of the aerial phenomenon which it is currently trying to identify. Contact 01642 822248

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WEST BRITON & ROYAL CORNWALL GAZETTE
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City rocked by 'UFOs'

POLICE checking reports of UFOs over Las Vegas rushed to Sam Boyd stadium — and found rock band U2 setting up for a concert.

Close encounters

TWO people saw a strange object in the sky above Threemilestone at 9pm on Monday. A light was seen in the sky before descending below trees. It then rose up for a minute before disappearing. A black ball-like object was then seen. The Cornwall UFO Research Group wants to hear from other witnesses. Contact Dave Gillham on Truro 276381.

Riddle of biggest UFO yet

From BILL COLES
in New York

THE biggest UFO sighting in history has left defence chiefs baffled - and thousands of witnesses are now convinced we are **NOT** alone.

A giant V-shaped object with red and white lights cruised silently for 200 miles over Arizona.

The slow-moving UFO, the size of three football pitches, was visible for nearly two hours.

It was first spotted by a retired cop - and soon police were flooded with reports.

Pilots and air traffic controllers were among the witnesses.

Dozens of people shot video footage as the UFO passed low over Phoenix at around 3:15pm on March 13.

And despite three months of computer analysis, no one has come up with any explanation.

Trucker Bill Greiner, 51, watched three fighters scramble from an air base to intercept the mystery craft.

He said: "It shot straight up and disappeared. I've seen something that don't belong here."

■ WE ARE NOT ALONE — ALIEN ENCOUNTERS MAGAZINE FOLLOWS UP BEN EXCLUSIVE ■



● FLASHBACK... What is it? This UFO was captured on film as it flew over Rivington moors last year. The Pike is on the left and on the right is Winter Hill mast. BELOW: How we reported the story.

Mystery of Winter Hill makes the real 'X Files'

UFO over Rivington!
BEN... November 29, 1996

A SPATE of UFO sightings above Winter Hill have attracted national attention from researchers into the paranormal.

Sightings of craft and bright lights reported in

By MARK LONGBOTTOM

the BEN during 1996 are being compiled for the specialist magazine Alien Encounters.

Freelance contributor John Locker from Merseyside has included the Bolton

reports in the January edition of his monthly Worldwide sighting report.

The most recent sighting came on the Saturday after Christmas when schoolboy Daniel Sergeant watched a brilliant orange beam hover over the TV mast for several minutes.

In September last year there were various reports

of people seeing a brilliant white light in the sky above Bolton. The UFO Research Network got involved with investigations.

But the phenomenon which attracted the most interest were various sightings of what appeared to be a triangular shaped craft flying over Winter Hill.

The Direct Investigation

Group on Aerial Phenomena (DIGAP) has been probing a variety of sightings and obtained a photograph showing the triangular object in the sky above Rivington.

Some UFO spotters believe the object is a top secret plane being developed at the British Aerospace factory at Warton.

WANDSWORTH BOROUGH GUARDIAN

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NOTTINGHAM EVENING POST

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Did you see UFO?

Was I the only person who witnessed what can only be described as a flying object hurtling to the ground on Thursday morning, March 20, at about 8am over Clapham Common.

It looked like a large metal object with wings as it plummeted to the ground and disappeared in a cloud of smoke.

There have been no reports of a plane crash and I can find no-one else who saw it.

MARTIN DOWDY
Balham

Crop circle theory

MICROWAVE energy could be responsible for mysterious crop circles in Notts fields.

New research being carried out in America has revealed that the circles are not the work of hoaxers but an unexplained phenomenon.

US bio-physicist Dr William Levengood believes some form of microwave energy is responsible.

Locally, they have been discovered in fields around Mansfield and in the Bramcote area.

Now the East Midlands branch of the Centre for Crop Circle Studies has appealed for help in gathering further evidence.

Investigators said now was the

time to start looking in fields for the circles. Last year around 300 were spotted around the country.

The group is holding an open meeting at Rushcliffe Leisure Centre, West Bridgford, on Sunday, April 27, at 2pm.

Mansfield-born computer programmer Mark Haywood has been hooked on investigating the phenomenon since finding a crop circle near his home town in 1989.

Mark, 29, said: "You can tell the genuine article from a fake. No stems are broken and they are all curved over in the same way."

If you spot a crop circle, contact Mark on 01543 263638.

Ever seen an alien?
HAVE you ever seen an unidentified flying object? We want to hear your real-life X-Files reports.
Maybe you have even had a close encounter with aliens. We're interested in ANY paranormal experiences... Call The Sun on 0171 481 3188 between 10am and 6pm today. Don't worry about the cost; we'll ring back...



● Ray Barnett



● John Murphy



● Antonella Zingali



● Andrew Healy



● George Kontitsi



Are saucers really flying?

IT was 50 years ago this month that the first flying saucer was spotted.

American pilot Kenneth Arnold saw "a chain of nine peculiar-looking craft" in the sky over the Cascade Mountains in Washington state, which the press soon labelled 'flying saucers'. Since then people have come out claiming all sorts of weird and wonderful stories they say proves UFOs exist.

We asked punters at The Market Porter pub, Stoney Street, Borough, whether they believed beings from other planets had visited us - or was it all just loonies claptrap.

● Ray Barnett, 51, a maintenance man of Southwark Bridge Road, is a convert - and even

believes Governments have proof which they keep back from us. He said, "Space goes on and on so there has to be other life forms. We send shuttles up to look at other planets so there's no reason why they wouldn't do the same.

"But it annoys me that people are so silly about it all, saying they have been taken away by spacecraft. It's something serious and when people muck about it distorts the truth. We should not forget 'Independence Day' was based on a true story."

● John Murphy of Bermondsey Street, Bermondsey, said, "I definitely believe in them. There has to be alien life up there somewhere it often seems like there's a

couple in this in this pub!"

● Barmaid Antonella Zingali, 24, of Brownhill Road, Catford, said, "I am sure they exist but are no where near as bad as they are portrayed in films.

"Chances are they are just like us - only probably better."

● Businessman Andrew Healy, 30, of Honor Oak Park, Forest Hill, said, "I've never had any UFO experiences and can't say I really believe in it all. But it's something you still don't want to completely rule out - you just never know."

● George Kontitsi, 21, of Brownhill Road, Catford, said, "I've never seen anything unusual like that but I hope it's true. I'd love to meet some aliens in fact I've even dreamt about it."

There were shadowy security men and unnamed politicians and lots of people choked by emotion. The usual alien abduction stuff. Unlike the characters in his book, Hopkins is calm and gathered. He is a smooth-faced chap of late middle years, with a careful crop of fine grey hair and a soft, clear voice. In a central London hotel we met to discuss his book. His wife asked if she could video the event as a record of their trip to the UK and I consented.

"And so, to the aliens. There were," I said, "only four possibilities where this story was concerned: he was making it up, the people he had interviewed were making it up, they were deluded or, finally, aliens really had abducted people. Surely, I said, on the balance of probabilities, the first three options were far more likely than the latter. That's when Hopkins mentioned genocide.

"Tell me," he said, "Do you believe the Holocaust really happened?" Because denying alien abductions in the face of the evidence was, he went on, exactly what revisionist historians were doing with the systematic extermination of the Jews. I was not happy.

I must first say that I do not believe Budd Hopkins to be either an anti-Semite or even someone who denies the Holocaust. But I do believe that the Holocaust occupies a unique place in human history. It is many things, but utilitarian is not one of them; it cannot and should not be turned, like some all purpose, heavy-duty shovel, to the intellectual task at hand.

"I also believe that, as the passage of time claims those who survived the camps, it is imperative for the next generation to make a noise when anybody attempts even to chip away at its significance."

"And so I made a noise. It was, I said; outrageous to claim that those who didn't believe little green men had come to earth were no better than the David Irvings of this world."

"The evidence didn't even compare. What's more, it cheapened the Holocaust to mention the two subjects within a mile of each other. How dare he line up exterminated Jews behind his arguments about aliens."

I performed a vertical take-off which lasted about three minutes, even pouring a little hot coffee on my leg in the process. Eventually, however, I suggested we move off the subject because we were not going to agree. But he couldn't stay off it.

At the end of the interview, he returned to the Holocaust, comparing once more my disbelief with that of the revisionists. I'd had enough. I stood up and walked out, briefcase in hand.

Bloomsbury did not like this. Their head of press phoned my superiors. I had behaved in an unprofessional manner. They even had video evidence to prove it: shots of me leaving.

My editor declined to see the tape; he said he would take my word over that of a man who believes in alien abductions. Next, Bloomsbury sent us a fax. 'Budd was much shaken by the incident,' they said. 'He has never, in the 25 years or so

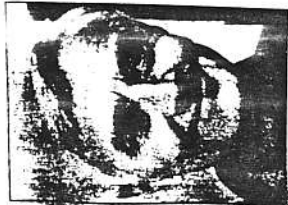
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LITTLE GREEN MEN

By Jay Rayner

Secrets and lies



I was meant to be an amiable chat about alien abductions and UFOs. It became a row with allegations of unprofessional conduct and threats of video evidence. Oh, well. As alien-abduction expert Budd Hopkins would doubtless admit, extraordinary things sometimes happen in the most unlikely of places.

Hopkins was in Britain to promote his new book *Witnesses*, published this month by Bloomsbury. He says it is the true story of the abduction by little grey aliens of a woman who lived on the 11th floor of an apartment block, heard by the Brooklyn Bridge in New York.

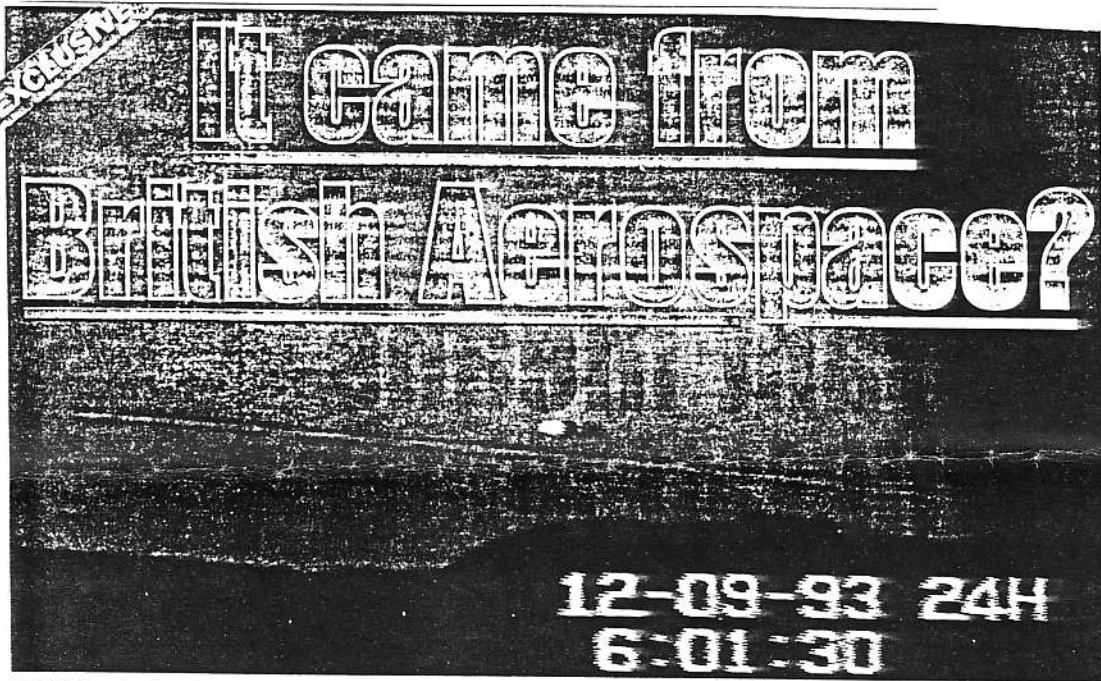
Mystery UFO spotted

THE Cornwall UFO Research Group is appealing for witnesses following a report that a mystery object was spotted in a field at Treven, Lintage, in the early hours of January 12.

A local woman woke at 4am to see a bright light flickering through her window, and when she

looked outside she saw a white triangular object surrounded by a pulsing halo of light.

The Group would like to hear from any witnesses to this or any other incident. It meets regularly at Richard Lander School in Truro and can be contacted on 01872 76381.



THESE exclusive pictures of a UFO hovering over Bolton have never been published before.

Sky watchers say they are further evidence that secret aircraft, similar to the American Stealth bomber, are being developed at British Aerospace in Warton, near Preston.

They say the craft was filmed by a security video camera in the Bolton area.

British Aerospace have repeatedly denied the claims. But Steve Balon, the local representative of the Direct Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena (DIGAP), said: "This adds to the evidence we already have that a top secret military craft is being developed at Warton. Obviously when they do test flights the crafts end up over Bolton and that explains the spate of UFO sightings in the area

By JENNIFER BRADBURY

which have been brought to our attention recently." The full video will be screened at a conference, organised by the Lancashire UFO Society, which is being held later this month in Southport.

Mr Balon, a speaker at the conference, will be providing photographic and documentary evidence to back up his beliefs of a secret programme to develop an

Sky watchers claim video proves secret aircraft being tested

"uninhabited aircraft" which will enable the RAF to attack distant targets well into the next century. His photographic evidence includes a picture featured in the BEN last year of a triangular craft high above Rivington Pike.

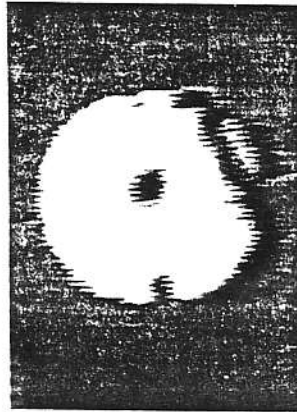
He will also be screening more video footage of a strange triangular object seen whizzing above the Winter Hill moors from a house in Pemberton, Wigan.

Mr Balon said: "There will be a lot of exclusive

presentations at this show and much evidence, some going back decades, to prove the existence of extra-terrestrial life."

Other subjects under discussion at the conference, which is being held in the Shelbourne Hotel, Southport, on Saturday, January 25, include crop circles, Groom Lake (Area 51) in Nevada, and the face of Mars.

Tickets, priced £10 are available from 01524 381520. The conference is being held from 11am until 7pm.



• Strange craft? A close-up of the UFO

Back to front 'comet'

IT was as big as the comet and it had a tail.

But star-gazer Keith Robinson was astounded to see that it was back to front!

"It was moving with the tail in front instead of the back," said 57-year-old Keith of Kings Park Road, Bournemouth.

Retired salesman Keith, who saw the orange glowing object from outside his home at around 1am Sunday was sure it was not Hale Bopp.

He became even more convinced when the UFO vanished and another identical object passed north to west.

Now Keith, who reported the sighting to police and a UFO group, is interested to know if anybody else saw the back-to-front comet-like objects.

He said: "They moved slowly but much faster than the comet appears to move.

"Their orange-red tails were definitely at the fronts and when I looked through binoculars I could see the objects themselves were like white balls."

Keith watched the double display for about six minutes until both objects vanished into the distance.

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IT SEEMS my friends...they're here!

Bill Eatock of Quest International is convinced that now is the time and that something big is about to happen.

For months and months UFO enthusiasts all over the world have been fretting about the Hale-Bopp comet and claiming that the comet is in fact shielding something behind it. A craft.

Bill told me that on Monday night there was substantial activity in the area.

People reported to him that they had seen crafts through their binoculars when trying to observe the comet.



Bill said: "There have been loads of triangles spotted, some as big as 300ft. Another man I know was buzzed by a scanner probe, it frightened the life out of him. Something is going to

happen sooner rather than later I am positive. I can't see whether the comet has got anything to do with it all but it seems pretty coincidental that it's here." Watch this space...

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ALIEN RIDDLE OF THE GREENS AND ROYALS!

By DEAN ROUSEWELL

TWO children who lived in a 12th Century English village were aliens sent to earth from outer space, a scientist claims.

They had green skin, ate only green food and spoke a language no-one understood.

And one of them even ended up marrying into ROYAL circles, according to astronomer Duncan Lunan.

When the boy and girl first turned up in a field in the tiny village of Woolpit, Suffolk, in 1173 they terrified villagers.

But eventually they made many friends. Lunan, assistant curator of

Scotland's Airdrie Observatory, believes they have descendants who are alive today.

He has discovered Latin texts which describe their arrival from a world where the sun neither rises nor sets.

Lunan believes they were sent from another planet by mistake - following an accident with a matter transmitter.

Their arrival was recorded by several writers, he says in a forthcoming book.

UFOs and arias!

Kingston opera director Michael McCarthy will next month re-create a modern mystery. He is producing *The Roswell Incident*, a new chamber opera based on events in 1947 when, legend has it, a UFO crashed into the New Mexico desert.

The production, for the adventurous and acclaimed Music Theatre Wales company, which Michael co-founded with musical director Michael Rafferty nine years ago, begins an 11-centre tour of England and Wales on May 9. There are plans to present it in London later.

Many questions about what became known as the

Roswell incident remain unanswered. Local people claim to have seen the spectacular crash landing, debris was found and there were rumours of autopsies performed secretly on alien beings. But the American authorities have maintained an official silence for almost half a century.

Composer John Hardy's opera explores the mystery through the memories of people who were in the vicinity at the time.

"Don't expect cling-film and bulging heads," Michael warned. "It's a powerful work which uses all the latest techniques in contemporary music-theatre."

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UFOs are out there... in Otley

BY HOWARD WILLIAMSON

UFO WATCHERS in Otley are burning the midnight oil to produce a veritable "bible" of flying saucer history.

Next month marks the 50th anniversary of the first use of the term "flying saucer", which was coined by a journalist following a sighting of airborne discs.

And *UFO Magazine* - which is produced by a staff of eight at Wharfedale House, Ilkley Road, Otley - will celebrate the occasion with a bumper 104-page issue, 30 pages more than usual.

Some 150,000 copies will be printed - almost double the normal print-run - and thousands will be distributed nationally and internationally.

Reference

Editor Graham Birdsall said: "We have received orders for this issue from all over the world, from Holland to the Philippines, and we hope it will become a reference work used even by Ministry of Defence.

"It will show people that there is a huge history of UFOs and it may

persuade them to find out more."

Graham said that he and his workers - he has recently taken on two more assistants - have been working up to 15 hours a day to prepare for publication on Thursday, May 29.

He will give an overview of the last 50 years at the 16th Leeds International UFO Conference, to be held at Leeds University from September 19 to 21.

There will be eight speakers at the event, some of them coming from as far afield as Mexico, Germany and the United States.

WESTERN MORNING NEWS

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Matt in panic after UFO encounter

An 18-YEAR-OLD Westcountry student claims he saw an unidentified flying object.

Matt Punter, of Pensilva, East Cornwall, was travelling home late at night from a friend's house in Liskeard when he suddenly became aware of something directly over his car.

He said: "I got to a place called Rosecradoc where the road suddenly gets wider. I reached the top of the hill when I suddenly had to duck and slam on the brakes.

EMMA HARTLEY

"My first thought was that a plane was crashing and was going to come down in the road in front of me.

"Then it stopped about ten metres further down the road. It was four different coloured lights in a square with no substance to it at all.

"There was a white light, a blue one, a red one and a yellow one. The highest one was

about eight metres in the air. It stopped there for only about one second. I felt like it was looking at me while I was looking at it. Then it just went."

Matt, a drama student, said: "I was so panicked when I got back that I was just telling everyone I saw what had happened, even the neighbours.

"I always thought people who claimed to have seen UFOs were a bit sad. But now I know what they were on about."

UFO shock for student

DRAMA student Matt Punter claims he had to slam on his car brakes after being confronted by a UFO near his Pensilva home in South East Cornwall.

The 18-year-old was travelling home late at night when he became aware of something directly over his car.

"I suddenly had to duck and slam on the brakes," he said. "My first thought was that a plane was crashing in the road in front of me.

"Then it stopped about 10 metres further down the road. It was four different coloured lights in a square with no substance to it at all.

"The highest one was about eight metres in the air. It stopped there only for one second. I felt like it was looking at me while I was looking at it. Then it just went."

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ufo encounter

CORNISH student, Matt Punter of Pensilva, says he was thrown into a panic after an encounter with a UFO.

The incident happened when the 18-year-old was travelling home late at night from a friend's house at

Liskeard when he became aware of a UFO. "I felt it was looking at me while I was looking at it. Then it just went," he said.

The student said he was "so panicked" when he got home that he has told everyone about it.



Continuing our Chronicle & X Files series on the paranormal, feature writer DINAH ROBINSON talks to Northamptonshire UFO spotter Gordon Atkinson, who believes he has witnessed more than a dozen craft hovering over his home in Salcey Forest . . .

Diary of a UFO spotter

Gordon Atkinson's sightings:

- August 1966 - First encounter. Saucer shaped object seen near Banbury at 1pm.
- 1968 - Lights on wall experience. Gordon hears crash at 2am which wakes him. Two lights appear on wall, fuse, and then turn into tadpole-like shape then disappear.
- February 1994 - A large, black, triangular craft appears over Salcey Lawn in Salcey Forest at midnight. It moves at walking pace approximately 100 feet above ground. Green lights on the underside of the craft.
- May 24, 1994. An orange-coloured craft moves across the sky over Salcey Lawn, going south, at 11.40pm. It moves at an incredible speed and is shaped like a cigar. No noise. In view for a few seconds only.
- Jan 1995 - Oval-shaped craft moves across the sky very fast at 12.30am. It is silver with no lights. 20 minutes, a twin oval craft appears and does a U-turn in the sky at incredible speed.
- Early 1995 - A large orange/red ball-shaped craft appears at 3am. Travels south parallel to Newport Pagnell Road.
- March 26, 1995 - Silver disc moving from east to west at high speed near Holcott Road and Pitsford Road, Moulton at around 5.30pm. Resembles a dustbin lid.
- May 20, 1995 - Domed craft hovers over a field in Salcey Forest. Ten windows on it giving off light. Coloured pink and glowing.
- August 1, 1995. Watching an aircraft through his binoculars, Gordon spots a white disc-shaped object at 11.50pm which was around the same size as the plane.
- August 4, 1996 - An area of sky lights up and moves very quickly at midnight. Shape indistinguishable.
- October 5, 1996 - Two discs moving very fast about a couple of minutes apart at 3.42am. The second disc seems to belch grey smoke which tumbles down like tinsel.
- Late 1996 - Formation of lights in shape of one cross underneath another spotted at 10.30pm travelling in between Wellingborough and Duston.
- December 14, 1996 - large white ball-shaped object seen hovering over field in Salcey at 9.15pm. No sound. Another small ball at its side.

EVERY week, the Chronicle & X Files will bring you haunting tales of ghosts, UFOs, aliens and paranormal experiences.

We want to report all the unexplained, paranormal happenings in Northamptonshire.

Whether it's spotting a UFO or a ghost, or the mysterious black panther said to roam the county, we want to hear your stories.

Send in your reports or call Jessica Pilkington on Northampton 231122.


If you want to write, send details of what you have experienced, if when it happened (date and time), where, and how long it lasted.

Send your report to: X Files Stories, Chronicle & Echo, Upper Mounts, Northampton NN1 3HR.

Chronicle & X-Files

IDENTITY:
Special agent
Dinah Robinson

ASSIGNMENT:
To seek the truth
out there about
UECs



REACHING for the skies

GORDON Atkinson looks very normal. He has a normal job and a normal life. But he will keep on spotting UFOs.

In the past nine years, he explained to me, he has made more than a dozen sightings of what he believes to be alien space craft.

"I know what it sounds like and at first I thought I was going mad but now I am so used to it that it doesn't bother me," he smiles, shrugging his shoulders in a resigned fashion.

Gordon's history of sightings is a UFOlist's dream. They are almost always spotted near his home in Salcey Forest and, rather like the Gordon reports, they come in all

shapes and sizes.

"My first sighting was in 1966," he says. "A large saucer-shaped disc seemed to move across from my right to my left at approximately 200 miles per hour."

"The sky was clear and there were no clouds anywhere. The disc appeared to be dark metallic, which I put down to the sun shining. What struck me as odd was that it seemed like it was still visible but was at the same time just a tiny dot in the sky."

Until that day in 1966, Gordon, now 59, had never given UFOs a second thought and for 22 years afterwards, he barely thought of the incident, putting it down to a freak of nature.

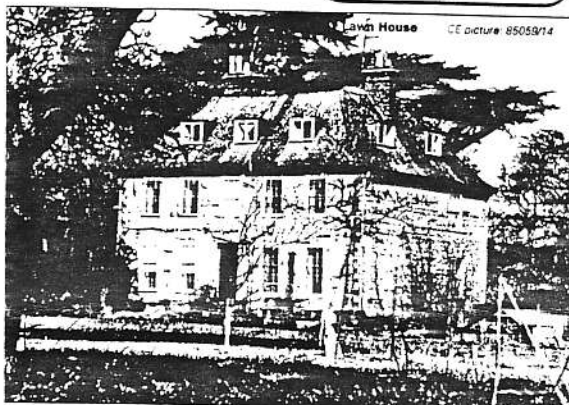
But in 1988, the aliens returned.

"I had an experience of lights on the wall of my bungalow at Salcey Forest," he continues.

"There was a crash at about 2am. I was in bed asleep and was woken up by the noise. As I sat up and wondered what it was, there appeared on the wall two lights of the same size about four inches in size."

"They began to move along the wall and then to fuse into a pearl-like light that was very bright. Then it started to firm a ball and wiggled away and as it did the light got smaller and smaller."

This encounter was the first of many in Salcey Forest.



He has since seen a large, black, triangular craft riding over the cedar trees at the rear of his house, an orange glowing cigar shaped craft that moved at lightning speed with no sound; twin oval craft darting in unison; a ball-shaped craft, orange in colour again, and a silver disc resembling a dustbin lid.

It is a great frustration to Gordon that he has not been able to do, but I seem to wake up in the middle of the night for no reason and that usually means

A domed craft with ten port holes seemed to be floating in the air over a field near the forest. Gordon stopped his car and watched for five minutes as the craft hovered.

He rushed home but everyone was asleep, so once again he was left with the task of convincing everyone the unlikely event happened.

But why is it always Gordon who sees them?

"I don't know," he says. "I do, but I seem to wake up in the middle of the night for no reason and that usually means

there's something to be seen."

"I spend a lot of time looking at the sky with my binoculars now, so I guess I am more likely to see them. I don't go along with people who say they are hallucinations. Why would I get so many? I don't understand it myself, really."

He sums up: "Either the MoD have incredible craft or are being outwitted by some other planet's technology."

"I just don't know the answer."



Mistaken identity

SYDNEY: A giant, fluorescent-yellow, football-shaped object floating across the city put the fear of UFOs into thousands of Sydneysiders during the weekend. Police and radio station switchboards were jammed and about 1000 calls were made to the National UFO hotline, said senior operator Ross Dowe. The strange light, reported at Penrith, Paramatta, Mona Vale, Mosman and Bondi, was the Whitman's chocolate company blimp making its debut flight over the city.

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UFO group wants Congress to examine 'proof' of aliens

AN American UFO research group says it will go public with its evidence of aliens if a congressional hearing could be held into the existence of extraterrestrial spacecraft, writes *Sean Hargrave*.

The Centre for the Study of Extraterrestrial Intelligence (CSETI) claims to have or possess UFOs who have, or have had, high level security clearance positions in America's armed forces, intelligence services and military organisations.

The hearing would be needed to tell of their experiences, Greer says his approach has been to gather a group of witnesses relating to general events rather than concentrate on a single sighting. "This he believes will contain a hearing with a mass of evidence at the same time as those who, if approached, would be forced to break their word as a single group.

Despite Greer claiming those present at his briefing were "shocked" by the evidence that was presented, no congressman has yet backed his appeal for a full hearing.

The couple say the lights appeared at 8.30pm and performed aerobatics across the night sky for around 15 minutes. An hour later, the unidentified flying objects were back and at just 200 feet above the ground went through the same series of death defying stunts before vanishing in the direction of York.

RAF Leconfield and the Humberside Helicopter Support Unit were grounded at those times and the Army Air Corps has denied being in the air. The mystery appeared to be solved when a coastguard spokesman blamed the celestial lights on meteorites.

But Mrs Waites believes what she and her husband saw cannot be explained away that easily.

Meteorites travel very fast in one direction, but these lights were zig-zagging across the sky," she said.

"At times they flew together but then they would split up. I feel there was some sort of communication going on between them."

To add to the mystery the Waites were contacted at 10pm by RAF Waddington in Lincolnshire and an officer asked them to describe the objects.

"We had only spoken to the police and then RAF Waddington contacted us," Mrs Waites said.

Suggestions she might have witnessed an alien visitation led Mrs Waites to contact Hull Unidentified Flying Objects Organisation. A representative visited the couple and asked them to complete forms detailing their experience.

Greer claims to have photographic and documentary evidence that shows the military has tracked and recovered UFO craft, as well as their own.

Greer's campaign has the backing of Edgar Mitchell, former astronaut who in 1971 became the sixth man to walk on the moon.

"The body of evidence is overwhelming," says Mitchell. "The real thing here is that the witnesses are not just everyday people who have seen UFOs. These people have had top security clearance within the military and their conduct. They deserve to be able to tell Congress what they know so we can begin to get to the bottom of this thing."

Greer claims that among his witnesses is a man who held a senior position in the intelligence unit at the Mis-Guire airforce base in 1978 when an alien that had left his craft was allegedly shot dead and taken to a top-secret corner of the Wright Patterson air base.

There is also a high-ranking officer who was part of a team that tracked a massive craft, which, he claims, was capable of travelling the length of the American coast in a single sweep of the radar.

He also claims to have ma-

EXTRATERRESTRIALS

because it would protect witnesses who hoped that those who attended will take CSETI's claims more seriously and back his call for a full hearing.

"We're not asking anybody suddenly to believe in UFOs because nine out of every 10 times, what you hear is absolute rubbish," says Greer. "We just want them to see there is sufficient evidence to warrant a hearing where we can present our case. That is all we are asking. We hope at least one of them is brave enough to back us."

Greer says 11 people told the

UFO sightings still a mystery

TWO pensioners who witnessed strange blue lights in the sky above Bridlington have denied claims they were watching meteorites.

Reg and Grace Waites, of New Pasture Walk, Bridlington, reported seeing two blue flashing lights zig-zagging

across the sky on the night of Monday, January 27, and were even contacted by an RAF base to explain what they had seen.

The couple say the lights appeared at 8.30pm and performed aerobatics across the night sky for around 15 minutes. An hour later, the unidentified flying objects were back and at just 200 feet above the ground went through the same series of death defying stunts before vanishing in the direction of York.

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Friday, April 18, 1997

Another UFO?

STRANGE flashing lights have been spotted trailing the comet Hale Bopp.

Dee Taylor saw shiny objects through binoculars from her garden in Quarrendon, Aylesbury, twice in the last week and is desperate to know what they are.

"I saw a bright orange star that glistened, and when I used the binoculars, I saw it was flashing bright red, blue and green," said Dee, of Grimmer Close.

She spotted the UFO last Thursday and again on Tuesday, when she says it was joined by another star-shaped object. "There's probably a good explanation but I haven't got a clue what it was," added Dee, who contacted Aylesbury police and the UFO Data Research office at Marston, near Oxford.

Mystery invasion of UFOs explained

THE *Evening Post* has solved a UFO mystery which has gripped city residents for the past few days.

Dozens of worried callers swamped police switchboards with descriptions of green lights over Nottingham.

But in true *X-Files* style, the *Post* has tracked down the man behind the scene.

Step forward Chris Jeffries, manager of Mondo Maplin Electronics on Castle Retail Park, Radford (Boulevard). For the past three nights, he has put on laser light shows to advertise the opening of his new store.



SHEDDING LIGHT: Store assistant David Mellors with a laser light

"It's just a laser beam with a number of lights attached to it which arcs through the sky," Mr Jeffries said. "We just wanted to catch people's attention and encourage them to come to the store."

It's obviously working, but I would rather they associated it with the opening of a new store than UFOs.

The nightly displays sparked fears of an alien invasion right across the city.

One Beeston resident said he had seen two shapes, about 20 to 30 feet in length, moving on top of each other and flashing.

While a caller from Lenton Abbey said they had seen a shape in the sky "like a 50 pence piece".

A spokesman for Nottingham confirmed that more than 30 calls had been received by officers at Beeston, Arnold and Central police stations.

All had described strange green lights in the sky.

Some of the callers were asking whether it was anything to do with the comet Hale Bopp, but so haven't even got that yet," he said.

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SUNDAY MIRROR
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25 YEARS AGO...

Noted in Passing
The latest UFO sighting in Nairnshire was on Tuesday evening when Dr and Mrs Finlay, Gardener's Cottage, Brackla, observed a dozen yellowish-white lights flying through the sky approximately on a north-west to south-east course. It was about 9.30 pm when they observed the first

group of five objects apparently descending from the direction of Ben Wyvis and these were followed by a group of six with a final single additional light separated from the others. Each light was visible for about a minute before fading away without reaching the vicinity of Brackla and the whole display occupied about ten minutes. Dr Finlay tells me that the objects did not have the usual appearance of aircraft lights nor of meteorites and it would be interesting to know if anyone else noticed them. — May 1972.

IT is bug-eyed like an insect, has a huge head and weird, grey body — and it comes from a galaxy near you.

TV viewers have just been shown the first-ever pictures of a LIVE alien.

Investigators say the frail, ET-like creature survived a spacecraft crash in New Mexico FIFTY years ago.

The amazing video footage — which was shown on the German PRO 7 Channel — was smuggled out of the top secret Area 51 US airforce base in the Nevada Desert, where the alien was said to have been interrogated.

Now, despite claims that the film is a hoax, it has sparked an international call for US President Clinton to "come clean" on America's secret files on UFOs and aliens.