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SAUCER WONDER: The third flying saucer is clearly visible in David's video, which experts described yesterday as the most significant British UFO film ever.



LAST SIGHT: They zoom off over coast at Lowestoft



CLOSE CALL: One crosses the other's flight path



DOGFIGHT: Triangular craft speed by just feet apart

THESE are the most astonishing UFO pictures ever taken in Britain.

The stills come from an incredible 35-minute video filmed in Suffolk and passed exclusively to the News of the World, showing:

- **THREE** flying saucers shooting past in a blaze of lights in three separate incidents.
- **A CIGAR-SHAPED** craft accelerating at incredible speed, and
- **HUGE** triangular objects engaged in a mock dogfight.

We showed the full 35-minute video to acknowledged UFO experts and they were stunned.

Graham Birdsall, editor of UFO Magazine, said after analysing it: "It is absolutely amazing, the most striking UK footage I have seen."

Nicholas Redfern, author of acclaimed UFO study A Covert Agenda, agreed and added: "It's on a par with anything filmed anywhere in the world. I firmly believe this is extra-terrestrial."

Convinced

The video was compiled over five months last year by UFO spotter David Spoor, 54, who said: "I still can't believe what I filmed."

"Now I am convinced there is another life out there. I'm SURE they are from another planet."

His wife, Labour district councillor Jean, 49, said: "I know of no earthly craft that could have behaved in this manner."

David said he filmed the first UFO last August from his three-bedroom bungalow in the village of Oulton Broad, near Lowestoft, Suffolk. He explained:

News of the World. 03.05.98

ALIENS IN OUR MIDST?

DAY THREE OF OUR FASCINATING SERIES

ARE beings from other worlds trying to communicate with us? In our intriguing series, criminologist and former university professor Colin Wilson is investigating the evidence about UFOs. Yesterday, he told how he uncovered the clues which suggest that beings from outer space were the real fathers of civilisation on Earth. Today, he argues that people do not see UFOs by accident — they have been selected to make contact with aliens . . .

YOUNG French astronomer Jacques Vallee was working in the Paris Observatory in 1961 when he saw what looked like an exceptionally bright satellite. What puzzled him was that it was not on any official record and that it was going the wrong way round the Earth.

Vallee hurried off to report this mysterious sighting to his superior. To his dismay, his boss not only dismissed it, but confiscated the tape and destroyed it.

He knew that Vallee was fascinated by the strange phenomenon known as flying saucers and he didn't want any of that kind of nonsense at the Paris Observatory.

Vallee knew that the American astronomer J. Allen Hynek was interested in UFOs — unidentified flying objects — and he lost no time in writing to him. Hynek urged Vallee to give up his job and come to the U.S.

The Frenchman had been interested in UFOs since he was 14, when he had heard a railway worker describe on the radio how he had seen a UFO near a train line and two small figures that looked like robots.

A year later, Vallee saw a UFO for himself. His mother screamed from the garden and Vallee rushed downstairs in time to see a grey metallic disc with a bubble on top hovering over the church in Pontoise, near Paris.

UFOs have been seen throughout the ages. In ancient Egypt, the Pharaoh Thutmose III saw a circle of fire descend from the sky.

When Alexander the Great was besieging Tyre, a large silver shield fell out of the sky and shot a beam of light at the city wall, blasting a hole in it and allowing the Macedonians to invade the city.

The fiery chariot of Ezekiel, described in the Bible, sounds very like a UFO. Writer Harold Wilkins has listed 150 reports of silver discs and globes of fire described by ancient historians.

In the Sixties, most writers on UFOs thought they came from Mars or some other planet. As an astronomer, Vallee knew this was unlikely, for such objects would be visible long before they reached Earth — not merely through telescopes, but even to the naked eye.

Was it possible, he wondered, that UFOs were not spaceships from Mars but something altogether more mysterious? Vallee went to Chicago to work with Hynek, who was a consultant on Project Blue Book, the U.S. Air Force investigation of UFOs.

Hynek had started out as a sceptic, who thought UFOs were due to hysteria and hallucinations.

After visiting a girls' college in Michigan where dozens of students had seen a large glowing object over a swampy area, Hynek told a crowded press conference that it might be something more than swamp gas (also known as will-o'-the-wisp).

A HOWL of derision went up all over the U.S. and Hynek acquired the reputation of being the ignoble instrument of an official cover-up.

Suddenly, every American had no doubt that there was more to flying saucers than glowing swamp gas. At the time Vallee came to the U.S., most books on UFOs were aimed at the popular market — such as the works of George Adamski, who claimed that he had been taken on a trip to Venus by aliens with long, blond hair.

Vallee soon changed all that with his books *Challenge To Science* and *Anatomy Of A Phenomenon*,

Do these close finally about to



Inset: Astronomer J. Allen Hynek investigated UFOs. Main picture: The alien spaceship lands in the climactic scene of the film *Close*



by COLIN WILSON

which analysed and classified hundreds of reports of UFOs.

Yet the more Vallee learned about UFOs, the more puzzled he became.

An engineering executive told him he had gone on board a disc-shaped object; he had found in a field during an archaeological dig.

Allens had connected him to some kind of computer and fed information into his brain for three hours. But when he returned, he found he had been missing for 18 days.

It sounded like an invented story, except that the executive's influential father had called out the police and the military to look for his son.

The executive told Vallee that, immediately after the encounter, he had needed an enormous amount of sleep. Then he slept less and less until he needed only a few hours a night.

His powers of memory and concentration were enormously enhanced and he was never ill. He was convinced that some enormous change was about to befall the human race.

A pretty blonde pop performer called Helen told Vallee how she had been driving along the motorway with her band when a UFO swooped silently over the car.

Four funnel-shaped lights drew them all up into the craft. The next thing Helen recalls was being back

in the car, which was still being driven along the road.

Convinced that something else had happened, she went to a hypnotist and was able to recall being taken on board the UFO and being shown its propulsion system.

To test her honesty, Vallee tracked down the other three members of the pop group, which had split up. They verified all of Helen's claims — one said that the experience had changed his life.

It struck Vallee that these aliens seemed to possess supernatural powers. In fact, in many ways they sounded like the fairies and goblins of folklore.

BUT WHEN he later wrote the book *Passport To Magonia*, which examined the parallels between accounts of fairies and the inhabitants of UFOs, ufologists thought he had gone too far.

These critics were missing the point, Vallee was simply drawing attention to the fact that many UFO encounters have a strong element of the paranormal.

One British woman, who had heard Vallee lecture, wrote to tell him that she had been driving to Stratford-upon-Avon with a friend when they saw a UFO the size of a

Full Moon, which darted around 'as if to show off its abilities'.

That evening, after having dinner with friends, she wandered to the French windows and saw on the lawn a kind of satyr, like the god Pan. It had a goat's legs and silky fur, and stared at her with grape-green eyes.

Thinking she was hallucinating, she turned away and then looked again. The satyr was still there. She stayed away from the French windows for the rest of the evening.

Vallee considered the most significant factor of the woman's account to be what she said had happened immediately after she saw the UFO. She described how thoughts seemed to flood into her head 'as though coming from outside', and that this burst of insight had caused a personality change.

All she could say to explain herself was that 'in that afternoon, I changed from being an agnostic into a gnostic, if that means anything'. (Gnostics believe that the spirit can be liberated from the confines of the body).

Was that why she was able to see the Pan-like being, who would probably have been invisible to the other people in the room? Had the UFO sighting somehow opened her mind to other levels of reality?

I met Vallee in the Eighties and have kept in touch with him. After studying thousands of cases and writing half-a-dozen books, he has come to a simple conclusion: that the purpose of UFOs is the effect they have on the human mind. They are what Vallee calls a

control system, like the propaganda of the Nazi Dr Goebbels, which was intended to mould what the Germans thought.

Vallee believes that UFOs are slowly and deliberately trying to bring about some great change in the way we perceive reality.

The Harvard psychologist John Mack has reached a similar conclusion after studying dozens of abductees, people who claim they have been taken from their beds, sometimes sucked through doors or walls, and subjected to examinations on some kind of craft.

At first, these abductees are terrified, disorientated and on the verge of nervous collapse. Yet many come to feel they have been somehow 'deepened' by the experience, and have become spiritually stronger. Most feel that their abductors are on a higher level of consciousness than they are.

A percentage of the abductees also feel that their experience has not taken place in the ordinary space and time that we take for granted.

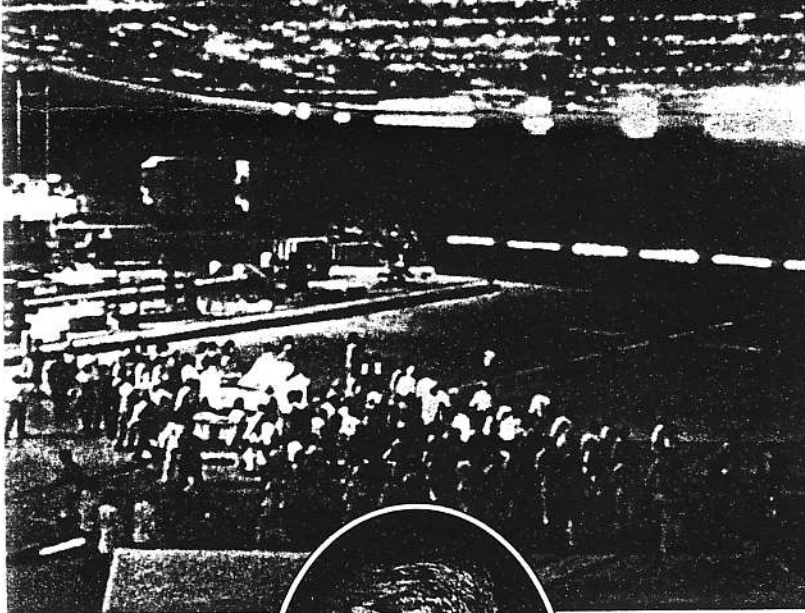
They speak of the aliens coming from another dimension, through a 'slit' or 'crack', or of entering our world from 'beyond the veil'. The effect is to make the abductees feel that they are beginning to grasp another kind of reality.

Oddly enough, many abductees feel elated by the experience. Mack compares the methods of the aliens to Zen masters who try to teach enlightenment by shock treatment.

The result, he says, is an 'opening of consciousness to a universe that

WHICH WILL MAKE YOU QUESTION THE WAY YOU LOOK AT THE WORLD...

encounters prove we are meet an alien life force?



Encounters Of The Third Kind



Belief: Ufologist Jacques Vallee

is no longer simply material. Many abductees come to feel that the universe, far from being devoid of meaning, is informed by some kind of universal intelligence, he says.

Even the sceptical Hynek eventually became convinced — to the fury and disgust of the U.S. Air Force — that the UFO phenomenon is the greatest mystery of our age, perhaps the greatest mystery of all time.

He coined the phrase 'close encounters of the third kind' — meaning contact between humans and aliens — which became the title of the director Steven Spielberg's 1977 film, on which Hynek was an adviser (one of the scientists in the movie was modelled on Vallee).

The chief drawback of the film was that it spread the notion that UFOs are visiting alien spaceships, when both Hynek and Vallee believed by that time that the issue is far more complicated.

If they were simply spacecraft from Mars, they would have landed and talked to us by this time, and not simply played a game of hide and seek that has left us bewildered, yet at the same time full of a curious sense of expectancy.

But if UFOs are not spaceships, what are they?

The investigator who has come closest to devising a plausible theory is John Keel, a writer from New York who is irresistibly attracted to the unknown.

In 1953, he saw his first UFO — a metallic disc with a revolving rim,

which hovered in broad daylight — above the Aswan Dam in Egypt. But it was not until 1966 that he decided to undertake a careful study of the subject.

He subscribed to a Press cuttings bureau and was staggered by the sheer number of newspaper stories about UFOs — often as many as 150 a day.

From Keel's interviews with hundreds of witnesses, one thing struck him: sightings are not a matter of chance.

Many people who had seen UFOs from their cars later saw them above their homes. It was as if the UFOs were following them. Keel became convinced that people do not witness UFOs by accident. They are somehow selected.

He also became convinced that a large percentage of the witnesses are psychic or have some paranormal abilities.

As soon as Keel began a serious study of UFOs, the phenomenon

began to home in on him. 'Luminous aerial objects began to follow me around like faithful dogs,' he says.

This is again something that is often reported by UFO witnesses. Many of them also receive visits from mysterious men in black, who claim to be from the government or Air Force officers — but no official department ever seems to know anything about them.

Many witnesses who were driving when they saw a UFO have told Keel that their car engines failed — unless they were driving a diesel.

Keel, a former radio engineer, knows that very low frequency (VLF) radio waves will stop petrol car engines by interfering with their electrical circuits. Diesel engines work on pressure ignition. This seems to suggest that flying saucers give off VLF waves.

That finding offered another important clue. Keel had noticed that UFOs often seem to appear from nowhere, looking like a violet blob. Then they change to blue, bluish green and finally orange and red — descending through the colour spectrum. Below red are radio waves and microwaves, which can interfere with a car's electrical circuits.

Keel believes that UFOs start off invisible because they are at an energy frequency far beyond the

range visible to the human eye. They descend through the scale of energies until they become visible to us.

In other words, the aliens can manipulate energy to bring objects into existence on our plane. They apparently belong to another dimension beyond the space and time with which we are familiar.

According to Keel, this explains another of the aliens' mysterious abilities: the power to foretell the future.

During the period when UFOs appeared to be following him around, he checked into a motel chosen at random — and found there was a booking in his name and half-a-dozen nonsensical telephone messages.

ONE MYSTERIOUS caller told Keel that there would be an aeroplane disaster in Tucson, Arizona. The following day, an Air Force jet crashed into a shopping centre in the city.

Another message predicted that something would happen to the Australian Prime Minister Harold Holt; a few hours later, he drowned while swimming.

Yet some of the calls were lies, or at least hoaxes. Keel was informed that there would be a massive power failure across the whole U.S. on a specific date in 1987, and that the East Coast would slide into the sea. The events would be triggered when President Lyndon B. Johnson switched on the Christmas tree lights on the White House lawn.

This seemed horribly plausible. 'They' had predicted a power failure a few months before, which had happened on schedule, blacking out four states.

But Keel recalled that another 'contactee', Professor Charles Laughhead, had been informed that the world was going to end on December 21, 1954, when the East Coast of America would slip into the sea and most of Europe would be destroyed.

Laughhead, a respected academic, called a Press conference to announce the news and his prediction made headlines. But the disaster failed to occur and Laughhead lost his job.

Keel, a well-known journalist with a syndicated column, could have spread this latest prediction across the U.S. But he decided it would be wiser to keep silent. His suspicions proved correct. When President Johnson threw the switch, there was no national power failure.

But while Keel was watching the event on television, the programme was interrupted by a newslash. A bridge on the Ohio River had collapsed during the rush hour, killing dozens of people. It was a bridge that Keel had crossed hundreds of times. 'They' had also predicted a disaster on the Ohio River...

All this left Keel in no doubt that he was not dealing with men from Mars. Yet he was equally certain

that he was not dealing with ghosts or some other supernatural agency. These beings seemed to be somewhere midway between the two.

'Another world of intelligent energy is intermingled with ours, and is very aware of us, while we are only vaguely aware of it,' wrote Keel.

'Not only has it a clear view of future events in our dimensions; it can also manipulate past and present events to prepare the way for the more important future events.'

Yet if there are such superintelligences, why are they bothering with us? Surely they must regard us as little better than Neanderthals?

Keel does not agree. He has come across people who appear to possess powers that strike the rest of us as supernatural.

As a young man, he travelled to the East in an attempt to understand some of the powers attributed to fakirs and yogis.

He concluded that many of the feats are due to trickery — for example, pretending to walk on water when actually balancing on a rope just below the surface. But he also came across apparently genuine cases.

In Tibet, he met the holy man Nyang-Pas, who was reputed to be able to levitate. Placing his hand on top of his stick, Nyang-Pas pushed himself up in the air and conducted the remainder of his conversation with Keel sitting in mid-air.

He also read Keel's mind. 'Think of an object,' he told him. Keel thought of a tree. 'That is too easy — you are thinking of a tree,' said Nyang-Pas.

Keel thought of a pair of boots. 'Now you are thinking of a pair of boots,' he was told.

He also taught Keel how to read minds. He must choose a good subject, who can clearly visualise the object he is thinking about. When the mind-reader focuses his mind on the subject, the thing the subject is thinking about will pop into his head.

URI GELLER clearly used this technique when he read my mind and reproduced a cartoon character I had invented for my children.

Another holy man Keel met described a fire happening then in a remote village. Keel later checked and found that it had occurred just as the mystic had described it.

In other words, is it not possible that we possess far greater powers than we realise, and that we fail to grasp this because we go through life like blind moles snuffling through underground tunnels?

In fact, is it possible that aliens are trying to teach us to use powers that are latent in all of us?

■ **ABRIDGED extract from Alien Dawn by Colin Wilson, to be published by Virgin on May 21 at £16.99. © Colin Wilson 1998. To order your copy, tel 01634 297123.**

TOMORROW: VISITORS FROM OUR FUTURE

UFOs are out there – I know

I WAS quite intrigued by a letter to the CAB column in your newspaper last week.

A subscriber, asked the lady who replies to readers questions whom he should contact regarding the sighting of a UFO in this area recently, and she provided him with an address nationally.

Now most people are cynical about flying saucers and other unidentified flying objects but from the comprehensive research I've done over the years such sightings are not to be dismissed as nonsense. Absolutely not.

Such notaries as Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin reported having encountered UFOs during their Apollo 2 landing on the moon in July 1969.

Thousands of other famous people have also added their viewings to the UFO news since the initial sightings in the mid-forties, just after the Second World War.

Numerous scientific professors have stated: "It is our conclusion spaceships DO exist, are very real and travel from one or more other solar systems." Cynics must take seriously such accounts from eminent sources.

I have read hundreds of books relevant to UFOs and I too am convinced that other forms of intelligence visit this planet.

Many planes have disappeared in pursuit of these craft never to be seen again, many airline pilots have been censored from revealing

their encounters with alien flying objects, and the RAF and USAF have withheld all information from the public.

Governments have done all they can to dispet information regarding such craft, yet everyone is aware of the Bermuda Triangle phenomena and the Roswell incident in America.

In the mid-50s a spacecraft did crash in the desert area of an American town but like all other incidents it was hushed up for security reasons.

Anyone in any doubt about these events should read Timothy Good's book Above Top Secret. It will vindicate the millions of rendezvous with unearthly beings, occurring since the conclusion of the last World War.

Perhaps these other beings are preparing for a formal tryst when peace exists on this planet. I'm absolutely sure other species other than human beings do visit us on earth.

I'll describe a very strange occurrence I experienced in the early 1980s.

Whilst travelling to work on night shift at Triangle Valve with a workmate, we had to use the country lane from Ashton to Pemberton as the A49 was closed at that time.

As we passed the farm at the top of Billinge Road, near the two-mile stretch a large luminous object appeared over the farm, all the instruments on my car dashboard began to play havoc, the clock span through the numbers and the car

came to an abrupt stop.

The next thing my mate and I were aware of was putting our clock cards in the automatic clocking on machine at work, it was 10.20pm and we were over an hour late for work.

The last time I'd noticed the time was 8.40pm on the car clock.

We had no knowledge of where we'd been for the hour and half previously.

When we went to cook our meal on the works stove we were astounded that when we unwrapped our eggs, bacon and sausages to cook, the bacon was crispy, the eggs hard and the sausages done. Mystifying, but authentic.

**Terence Blackledge
Horne Grove
Worsley Mesnes**

Fishy encounters

DO space aliens really tune into Coronation Street?

I pose the question after hearing that a huge glowing jelly fish-shaped UFO followed Raquel home late one night. Actually they were stalking the wrong star for 30-year-old Catherine Jones of Bournemouth just

looks like *Coronation Street's* favourite barmaid.

Catherine's close encounter some years ago sparked off an interest in UFOs so she was spurred into action when she read the recent *Advertiser* front page story of a sponsored walk to Roswell.

Author Marcus Walker of "Southbourne is trekking to the alleged American site of a flying saucer crash to raise £100,000 for a Dorset UFO research centre.

"I really want to help him," said mother-of-two Catherine who

lives in Gillingham Close, Muscliff. "We're discussing fund raising events and researching together just like Mulder and Scully from the *The X-Files!*"

Working as a look-alike Catherine can earn up to £200 pulling pints behind a bar or even £1,000 opening a supermarket.

Said Catherine: "I'll do any number of these promotions to help build his centre. I'd even like to work there counselling UFO abductees."

Catherine also plans coffee mornings for

people who have had UFO encounters.

She said: "Many people are nervous of coming out and talking about their experiences because they fear ridicule. I'll listen because I've seen one too."

She saw her jelly fish UFO in Broadway Lane near her home.

"It was huge with a ring of coloured lights," explained Catherine. "It followed me for ten minutes. Then I looked away and it was gone."

UFO spotters or anyone needing her look-alike services can contact Catherine on 527025.

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Thursday, April 24, 1997 ADVERTISER

SOMETHING strange is happening in the skies above Burton and South Derbyshire — but the good citizens of the district can sleep soundly in their beds. BUFOIB is keeping watch.

BUFOIB — the Burton UFO Investigations Bureau — has been scanning the heavens for the past 12 months after deciding the skies above Swadlincote were a hotbed of alien activity.

The group was formed after a string of reports dating back to the 1950s of mysterious objects over East Staffordshire and South Derbyshire.

Unexplained reports include glowing triangular craft hovering in the air while members of the group also speak of telephone calls from UFO watchdogs in the Government.

The district's reputation as a "hotbed" of UFO activity prompted a group of fanatics to establish the club in Burton last year to track and monitor unusual phenomenon.

BUFOIB — The Burton UFO Investigations Bureau — meets monthly to discuss sightings and conduct sky watches which involve round-the-clock surveillance of key areas.

Group director Mr Neil Cottee is responsible for recording unusual activity in the night sky and issues a monthly newsletter to

keep UFO spotters informed.

Neil says he has always been interested in UFOs and, despite never actually seeing one himself, says he has seen enough evidence to believe there is other life out there.

He said: "In theory there is an infinite number of stars and planets which means there are infinite possibilities of life too."

Swadlincote and Bretby in particular are real hotbeds of UFO activity; the most common sightings are of large triangular glowing objects. The smaller of these we suspect are the Government's new military stealth planes which make no noise and travel extremely quickly.

But the large triangle shapes which people have described as the size of a football pitch have so far not been explained.

Neil has collected information on scores of incidents in the area over the years and agreed to share some of the strangest with the Mail.

In December, 1990, a lady who now lives in Midway says she was walking back from her local shop at around 9.50pm when she

saw a UFO rise out of a ditch in a nearby field.

She was able to describe how it hovered above the ground before disappearing and approached BUFOIB to try to gain some understanding of what she had witnessed.

Mr Cottee said last June at around 11.30pm a Burton man contacted BUFOIB to say he had seen more than 100 gold coloured spots or discs flying in formation towards Derby.

The man, a Second World War pilot with an extensive knowledge of military and civilian aircraft, said he had never seen anything like it before.

He said the discs he saw kept in formation but moved, creating stretched out shapes. He saw the same objects again on August 25 last year heading in the opposite direction towards Lichfield.

Another unexplained sighting came from a middle-aged woman from Linton who, in October last year, saw a large triangular craft. An immediate skywatch was set up by the group in the village but

nothing was spotted.

A month later the group was contacted again by the woman, known as Mrs H, who said she had bought binoculars since the last sighting and claimed to have seen another bright triangular craft hovering over a country road.

She told Mr Cottee a black car came round a bend in the road and the "craft" shot down a beam of light. She said the car came to a stop and four people dressed in dark clothing got out and started to search the ground as if they had dropped something but never bothered to look at the triangle object above them. Mrs H said the light went out and the car drove off.

She later told the BUFOIB she received a telephone call from a man who said he was from the Government asking her about her sightings even though she said she had told no-one about it.

Anyone who wants to join the BUFOIB or find out more information from the club can write to Mr Cottee at 97 Wyggeston Street, Burton, DE13 0SD.

By Amanda Statham

IN BED WITH AN ALIEN KIDNAPPER

UFO abductee Andrew Hennessey believes we should all be 'preparing ourselves for the return of the star gods'.

Andrew (41) claims to have had several abduction experiences, and he says he has learned about the motives of extraterrestrial visitors.

The Scots folk musician's first encounter happened 20 years ago, long before the phenomenon became well known and TV's *X-Files* was thought of.

Living in his bedroom in Portobello, a suburb of Edinburgh, Andrew stared in amazement as "small green balls rolled slowly and deliberately over my bookcase".

"They hung around for an hour and then I saw a silver globe hovering over the table," he said.

HE naturally felt apprehensive and as if sensing his fear a gentle voice called out "Don't be afraid".

"When I woke the next day I found I had been very tightly tucked up in my bed, something I could not possibly have managed by myself. What's more it was



2pm. I'd slept many hours longer than normal." Gradually memories came back to him. Flashes of meeting the 'greys', thin stick-like beings with large almond eyes which have become a regular feature of many abductees' alien encounters.

ANDREW believes he was floated through his bedroom wall and up into a spaceship hovering above the house.

He trained as a medium but after three years realised 'Spiritualism alone couldn't explain some of the imagery I was seeing'.

There was clearly a source other than spirits for the information that was being passed to him. The answer had to be extraterrestrial intelligence. Aliens, it seems, were still trying to contact him.

In 1986 Andrew was playing a gig at Glencoe.

"After the concert I was lying in bed and a grey alien appeared and embraced me.

"I was taken underground and shown a whole

city inside a cavern - maybe under Glencoe."

The idea that UFOs originate from inside the earth rather than other galaxies has a long pedigree. It is suggested that this solves the puzzle of UFOs' ability to appear and disappear.

Various locations in Scotland have been put forward as the site of underground bases - from the Campsie fells to West Lothian. Several witnesses have reported seeing spaceships disappearing through solid rock.

"I believe the human race has been sharing the planet with other races for millions of years, which points to the conclusion that we are all part of a universal melting pot," says Andrew.

So has evolution got it wrong?

The long sought-for 'missing link' which supposedly would prove apes and man evolved from a common ancestor has never been found.

So where did we come from?

His experiences with ET has convinced Andrew that "The human race was an experiment. We didn't originate from this planet," he

says. But if we share a blood line with aliens why do they appear so much more advanced?

"We've not ended up on the same level because our thinking is flawed. We lack the capability of putting strands of thought together," says Andrew.

HE believes we are in for major changes and that 'something amazing will happen'.

So convinced is he that he has set up a society of like-minded people called The Transformation Group to prepare for the events.

Members are not predicting what will happen, but point to the widespread belief that a huge change in society will occur early in the new millennium.

Prophecies include the return in AD2012 of the builders of the pyramids.

Also forecast is the reawakening of the fabled King of the World whose followers have been living underground waiting for his second coming.

"By 2008 there will be a benevolent extraterrestrial embassy on earth," Andrew assured me.

“I was taken underground and shown a whole city”

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REAL LIFE X-FILE STUNS MOTORISTS

DRIVERS claimed they were shaken up after a 40ft long unidentified flying object flew over the top of their car.

The incident happened between 6.30-7pm last Tuesday evening when Mike Speed and a female colleague were driving home near the Llandegla moors between Ruthin and Wrexham.

Mr Speed said: "It was near dusk when suddenly a huge black object came hovering towards us. It was travelling very slowly and was no more than 25 feet above the ground.

"It was oblong in shape and there were no distinguishing features on it except for a blue glow at the back. It was absolutely terrifying and my colleague was hysterical with fear.

"Then after a few moments it just disappeared over the moors and was gone - it made no sound at all and there was no way it could have been any kind of plane."

Mr Speed said that when they arrived back at the house his colleague's watch

UFO passes over evening commuters

had gone back an hour, and his own watch 15 minutes forward.

He said: "I know it sounds bizarre and there's just no way I can explain it. It's left me feeling shocked and shaken, and I don't think I will ever find any logical answers."

A spokesman for Wrexham Police confirmed they had received a sighting of a strange object from a man who was driving with a passenger.

The report was passed on to the Civil Aviation Authority, who in turn passes all reported UFO sightings on to the

Ministry of Defence.

But the MOD maintain they only investigate whether the sighting of a UFO poses a threat to national security.

A spokesman said it was not in their brief to investigate the particular nature of any UFO, and once an object is deemed not to pose a threat to national security, no further investigations are made.

Triangular

Eric Morris of the British UFO Studies Centre said there had been a number of sightings of UFO's in the Wrexham area over recent years.

He said: "Recently a Wrexham man also reported an incident to the local newspaper, spotting a triangular shaped unidentified flying object while driving on a small road around the Northwich area.

"We will investigate any sightings that are reported to us and people will receive full confidentiality."

The BUFOSC can be contacted on 01606 330667.

Scientists call for an inquiry into 'physical evidence' of flying saucers

From IVOR KEY in New York

FOR decades, reports of UFOs have both alarmed and mystified the public. Now scientists are about to sit up and take notice as well.

Yesterday, an international panel of scientists called for a full-scale investigation of UFOs after concluding that some sightings were backed up with compelling physical evidence.

And in a mild rebuke, they said colleagues who previously had not taken some of the phenomena seriously might have something to learn.

The panel studied cases associated with inexplicable details such as burns to witnesses and radiation damage to vegetation.

UFOs that should be investigated, they said, include a gigantic disc, 3,000ft in diameter, spotted in the skies above Paris in 1994 by the crew of a military aircraft. It was on radar for 50 seconds before slowing from 110 knots to zero and disappearing.

Also in need of exploration are regular sightings of strange lights above Norway and Texas, and a cigar-shaped grey metallic object - giving off a powerful green glow - seen by witnesses on the ground and by the nearby crew of an Army Reserve helicopter over Ohio in 1973.

The helicopter started to ascend, although the controls were set for descent, and its

'Strides in technology'

magnetic compass started to spin wildly for no reason.

The panel also recommend research into a 1981 case in Trans-en-Provence, France, in which a witness reported an oval object emitting a low whistle as it flew in for a landing.

Police and researchers then found two concentric circles and other traces that, when analysed, showed the soil had been heavily impacted with radiation and plants in the area had aged.

This first independent review of UFOs in 32 years was directed by physicist Dr Peter Sturrock of California's Stanford University. The last, in

1966, was undertaken by the University of Colorado after being commissioned by the U.S. Air Force and the CIA.

It concluded that 'further extensive study of UFOs probably cannot be justified in the expectation that science will be advanced'.

The Sturrock group, however, says strides in technical capabilities now make the chances of understanding greater.

Dr Sturrock admits in a report that his panel found no concrete evidence of extraterrestrial intelligence but says the scientific community might learn something if it can overcome the fear of ridicule associated with the topic.

It might even get funding for research to try to explain the strange occurrences.

'It may be valuable to carefully evaluate reports to extract information about unusual phenomena currently unknown to science,' the report said, adding that such research could also improve understanding of, and in some

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ALIENS REBUFFED WITH MYSTERIOUS 'BODYGUARD DISCS'

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. (Wireless Flash) - Can a 3-inch metal disc protect you from an alien abduction?

The mysterious metal discs are being sold by a California-based group called the Alien Resistance Movement, which claims hostile aliens are walking the streets of almost every city on the planet.

Spokesperson Thor Templar says the "alien bodyguard discs" are made of gold and silver and give off "vibrational energies" which will keep aliens at bay.

The Alien Resistance Movement apparently learned how to make the bodyguard discs thanks to information supplied by what Templar calls an elfin-looking alien woman with extra-long fingers.

The discs may be to aliens what garlic is to vampires but they're not as cheap.

Each disc costs a whopping \$225 but, according to Templar, one disc can protect an entire house from alien attack.

cases debunk, supposed UFO events.

The review, published in the Society for Scientific Exploration, was compiled after an inquiry involving ten eminent scientists from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Cornell, Princeton, Arizona and Virginia universities as well Germany and France.

'Topic with a giggle factor'

They heard evidence from UFO investigators in America and Europe.

The panel said that despite an abundance of UFO reports over the last 50 years, "and despite great public interest, the scientific community has shown remarkably little interest in this topic".

They said when scientists and officials not connected with the study were told about its suggestions, they were sur-

prised that a topic with such a high 'giggle factor' might be resurrected for serious study.

Dr Sturrock said that some reported incidents could have been caused by rare natural phenomena, such as electrical activity high above thunderstorms, 'but there were some that couldn't be easily explained'.

He hopes some scientists 'will read the report and become curious ... the challenge is to do good science on this issue. It's difficult.'

The Air Force last year made public its latest report on the 1947 incident near the town of Roswell, New Mexico, when witnesses said they had seen the bodies of aliens. The military said they were dummies used being used in exercises.

The supposed crash of a UFO gave rise to a whole flying-saucer culture of paranoia, including TV programmes such as The X-Files.

But like the Sturrock panel, the Air Force concluded there was no hard evidence of aliens or their spaceships.

Butlin's has answers to high-de-high riddles

EVIDENCE of UFOs over Thanet could be found at BUTLIN'S.

The Grand Hotel at Cliftonville has been chosen for a UFO conference being held next month.

Organized by Margate-based group Astrasearch and the East Kent UFO Research

Group, it is the biggest event of its kind in Kent and visitors are expected from all over the country.

Astrasearch chairman David Quickenden says the annual conference - the third to be staged - is now a major event on the UFO calendar.

"It is of interest not only to experts from around the country, but also Thanet people who have seen strange things in the skies or just want to find out more," he said.

"There have been a number of sightings here over the last 12 months and interest in the

subject is growing enormously.

"Films like 'Independence Day' and tv series like 'X-Files' have encouraged the public to take the whole thing more seriously."

The conference will take place over two days and eight speakers will talk on every-

thing from the real life "Men in Black" to crop circles and military UFOs.

Organizers hope to attract 400 people to the event, which takes place on 3 and 4 October. Admission is £10 a day or £15 for the weekend. More information is available on 221015.

TORCHLIGHT UFO FLYING OVER PLANES SAY COUPLE

STRANGE lights in the sky terrified a couple as they watched from their back garden in Broadstairs.

Rosemary and Roy Hunt were so frightened by the mysterious object zig-zagging through the night that they called the police.

Roy (61) admitted: "It scared the life out of me. I've never seen anything like it. It was moving about and going in circles."

Rosemary (59) stood transfixed

indoors to phone the police. She said: "I saw it as plain as anything. It had red and green lights on it."

"One minute it was dashing about all over the place and the next it was stationary. I know it wasn't a star or a plane."

But Rosemary said there were planes flying quite a way beneath the object. She also saw a beam, like a torchlight, coming from it.

The couple, who live in Lindenthorpe Road, didn't believe in UFOs before the sighting. Thanet police contacted RAF Manston but were told it had no aircraft in

the area and no knowledge of any light shows nearby.

No other sightings were reported to police that night, but the details of the object described by Roy and Rosemary tally with a sighting reported in the Thanet Times in August.

A dad and two teenage girls saw lights in the sky with planes appearing to follow.

Although the friends believe it was a UFO, their parents think it was a secret military craft. Rosemary said: "When people tell me they have seen a UFO, I shall believe them now."



UFO sightings on increase

By EMILY LE QUESNE

EVERYONE seems to be looking to the skies in Mid Cheshire.

A spate of new witnesses has come forward to report flying saucers following *The Chronicle* story last month on UFO sightings.

Since we published the article about the work of the British Unidentified Flying Objects Studies Centre (BUFOSC), founder Eric Morris has received a welter of new eye-witness accounts and seen numbers attending the society's meetings more than double.

At BUFOSC's latest meeting, 44-year-old Eric met a string of people who reported similar sightings to the one that started it all off at Sandvrow crossroads at Okmere on January 10.

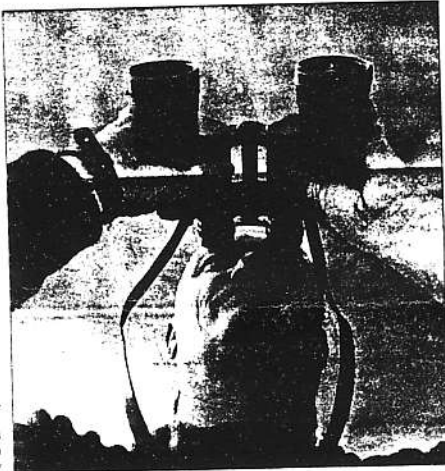
Then a driver from North Wales was travelling to Weaverham to meet his girlfriend when he saw a strange dark grey triangular object in the sky at around 1pm.

Eric, who lives at Greenall Road, Northwich, said: "Eight or nine people came up at the meeting to say that they had also witnessed the phenomenon.

"And one man was able to describe the sighting in much greater detail than before. I didn't have time to speak to them and take their details at the meeting so it is vital they get in contact with me."

The BUFOSC meeting was attended by 45 people, more than twice as many than before, and Eric issued 20 report sheets to those with fresh information on possible extraterrestrial activity.

"Thanks to *The Chronicle* more people have been coming to us with their stories or reports," he said.



SKY WATCHER: UFO expert Eric Morris scans the heavens for extra-terrestrial visitors. 0762C7A

"Not a lot of people knew about BUFOSC before, but now witnesses are less inhibited about coming forward and relating their accounts to us."

One of the sightings was on January 31 near the Oulton Park motor racing circuit and was reported by a couple driving to Shrewsbury. They said they saw a triangular-shaped object.

It follows other reports of UFO activity in the area, including a man who says he saw a flying orange ball with spikes on it over Rudheath, and sightings of triangular objects or craft in Winsford and Runcorn.

The next British Unidentified Flying Objects Studies

Centre meeting is tomorrow (Thursday) at 7.30pm at the RAFA Wings Club in Station Road, Northwich.

Founder Eric Morris will discuss an alleged UFO crash which happened several years ago near an RAF base in Newquay, Cornwall, which he spent three months investigating.

He is also hoping to get Nigel Mortimer, one of the world's leading UFO researchers, to speak on the "Ilkley entity".

Eric is also keen to hear from people who have had UFO experiences but have not been able to attend a meeting.

BUFOSC can be contacted by ringing 01606 330567.

"Then, after a few moments, it just disappeared over the moors and was gone - it made no sound at all and

Mr Speed said: "It was near dusk when, suddenly, a huge black object came towards us. It was travelling very slowly, and was no more than 25 feet above the ground."

"It was oblong in shape and there were no distinguishing features on it except for a blue glow at the back. It was absolutely terrifying and my colleague was hysterical with fear."

A MOTORIST claimed he and his passenger were badly shaken after a 40ft-long UFO flew over his car.

By STEVE BAGNALL and CHRIS HENSHAW

X marks spot of motorists' UFO ordeal

there was no way it could have been any kind of plane."

Mr Speed said that when they arrived back at the house his colleague's watch had gone back an hour, and his own was 15 minutes forward.

Logical

He said: "I know it sounds bizarre, and there's just no way I can explain it. It has left me feeling shocked and shaken, and I don't think I will ever find any logical answers."

A spokesman for Wrexham Police confirmed they had received a report of a sighting of a strange object from a

man who was driving with a passenger.

The report was passed on to the Civil Aviation Authority, which, in turn, passes on all reported UFO sightings to the Ministry of Defence.

But the MOD says it only investigates whether the sighting of a UFO poses a threat to national security.

A spokesman said it was not in its brief to investigate the particular nature of any UFO, and once an object is deemed not to pose a threat to national security, no further investigations are made.

Eric Morris, of the British UFO Studies Centre, said

there had been a number of sightings in the Wrexham area over recent years.

He said: "Recently a Wrexham man also reported an incident to the local newspaper, spotting a triangular shaped unidentified flying object while driving on a minor road around the Northwich area."

"We will investigate any sightings that are reported to us and people will receive full confidentiality."

The BUFOSC can be contacted on 01606 330667.

Is sign a spoof after all?

A BUS driver who put up a tongue-in-cheek sign warning about alien abductions is convinced 'the truth is out there' after a series of strange sightings across Mid Cheshire.

Pete Roberts, of Carlton Road, Witton Park, who has worked for North Western buses for 25 years, put the sign up as a prank just before Christmas.

It reads: "North Western Buses would like to point out that it has no legal responsibility for any passengers abducted and experimented with while travelling on the company vehicles. Many thanks for your co-operation."

He came up with the spoof after telling irate passengers in Chester the late arrival of a bus was due to its being abducted by aliens.

But now 44-year-old Pete says the boot is on the other foot. "Since I put the sign up there's been all those reports of UFO sightings across the area. The sign has caught up with me. It started as a joke but now people don't know what to think."

"People have been asking me if I've put the sign up because of all the UFO sightings."

"They don't know if it's a joke or if the company is covering



X-FILE SIGN: Bus driver Peter Roberts with his alien abduction spoof warning. 1114X8

itself against alien abductions. "I can't dismiss the idea of UFOs."

"I haven't seen any but you've got to keep an open mind," he said.

Meanwhile, when Pete is not driving buses or on the trail of extra-terrestrials, he keeps amused by playing the flute and singing with Northwich Folk Club.

Athelstan Spilhaus

IT WOULD be unfair to blame Athelstan Spilhaus for what came to be called the Roswell Incident. All the same, he was the engineer in charge of an experiment that resulted in many otherwise sane people becoming convinced that aliens had arrived on earth.

In 1947 the Americans were working on ways to monitor nuclear tests in the Soviet Union. One plan was to put aloft balloons equipped with the necessary detection equipment. The first experiments were failures. The balloons all blew away. Mr Spilhaus, then a professor of meteorology at New York University, was brought in. As a weather man, so the reasoning went, surely he would know how to ensure that the balloons stayed quite steady in the stratosphere.

On June 4th 1947 the Spilhaus prototype was launched. On July 7th it came down with a bump, disintegrating on a ranch near Roswell in New Mexico. The rancher phoned the local sheriff. He thought the debris might have come from "a flying disc". By the time the story got into the newspapers the "disc" had become a flying saucer. A neighbour of the rancher later said that in the debris there was "something like aluminium, something like satin, something like well-tanned leather in its toughness, yet was not precisely like any one of those materials". Could this have been a dead alien, or possibly several? Many people came to think so.

An air force team removed every scrap of debris, assuring reporters that it was just an ordinary balloon, nothing to be bothered about; and compounding suspicions that the federal government was trying to cover up the fact that aliens had landed, fearing panic by the public. It was not until 1994 that it disclosed the background to the incident. Even now, the government version is widely disbelieved. The myth was much more interesting. Mr Spilhaus could say little: this was a secret of the cold war. But the fact that he was known to be associated with the incident only added to public speculation about it. Mr Spilhaus enjoyed playing the role of a slightly dotty scientist, a bit of a dreamer, or, as he called himself in later life, a "retired genius".

Keeping warm in Minneapolis

Athelstan Spilhaus had more success as a member of the team that in January 1958 launched Explorer 1, the first American satellite. He was an optimist, a good person to have around when things looked bad, as they had four months earlier when the Russians had sent up their Sputnik. In the second world war Mr



Athelstan Frederick Spilhaus, inventor of aliens, died on March 30th, aged 86

not offended that his idea was not taken up. "I do love to play with ideas," he said. The important thing was that they should be elegant, even if at the time they did not seem practical. He loved toys. With a toy, he said, you could easily demonstrate a principle. In a sense, every prototype was a toy.

He was especially fond of old toys and had a collection of several thousand. In "Mechanical Toys", a book written with his wife Kathleen, he was enthusiastic about a German toy which produced nine different animal sounds. It had never been bettered, he wrote. He marvelled at the system of bellows, pipes and stops. "The variety and accuracy of older specimens" was probably "a lost art", and rivalled modern electronic synthesizers. Mr Spilhaus did his best, though, to sustain the art. He designed many toys for his children and grandchildren. Some of the designs have been marketed and are the correct toys to be seen in the best nurseries.

American presidents warmed to him. Eisenhower put him on UNESCO. Kennedy got him to oversee the American stand at the Seattle World's Fair in 1962. Johnson made him a scientific adviser. All picked his brains. He in turn helped to persuade the government to remedy what he called America's "pitiful ranking in ocean fishing". Nothing is impossible, Athelstan Spilhaus would say. Barring aliens, of course.

Spilhaus had been called in when the American navy was puzzled, and indeed desperate, because German submarines were eluding its warships after apparently being detected by sonar. He devised an instrument that made the sonar more accurate by allowing for temperature changes in the water.

Mr Spilhaus, a naturalised American, was born in Cape Town and would sometimes remark that the only thing wrong with America was that it did not have the weather of South Africa. The oceans were the key, he said; an obvious fact nowadays with El Niño playing havoc with the world's weather, but not so obvious in the 1930s and 1940s when Mr Spilhaus was doing pioneering studies into oceanography, first at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and later at New York University and the University of Minnesota.

After experiencing the bitter winters of the Midwest he suggested that the only way to bring decent South African weather to Minneapolis was to enclose it with a kind of huge umbrella. He drew a plan, which the city considered seriously, but backed away from the serious cost. Artificial climates inside domes no longer seem far-fetched, but Mr Spilhaus was