



EXCLUSIVE

CLOSER ENCOUNTER

First ever 'photos of Britain's biggest UFO sighting show huge orb flying through woods with beam of light shooting out'

- Emma Parry
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THESE spooky black and white photos allegedly show the UFO at the centre of Britain's biggest ever case for the first time.

They were supposedly taken in Rendlesham Forest in Suffolk by a poacher who claims he saw the same UFO being hunted by a military team from a nearby US airbase.



A new 'witness' has released these photos claiming they show the Rendlesham Forest UFO



One of them appears to show a beam of light shooting out of a giant orb



The 'witness' claims he took them when he was poaching 40 years ago
The alleged witness claims he was 200ft away from Colonel Charles Halt, deputy base commander of RAF Bentwaters, and his men, when he spotted the glowing orb - in an unsolved case often dubbed the British Roswell after the infamous US UFO crash.

He said: "When I was younger, I was a poacher. I lived very close to Rendlesham Forest and frequently went poaching there. So back in 1980, 28 December, I was in the forest poaching.

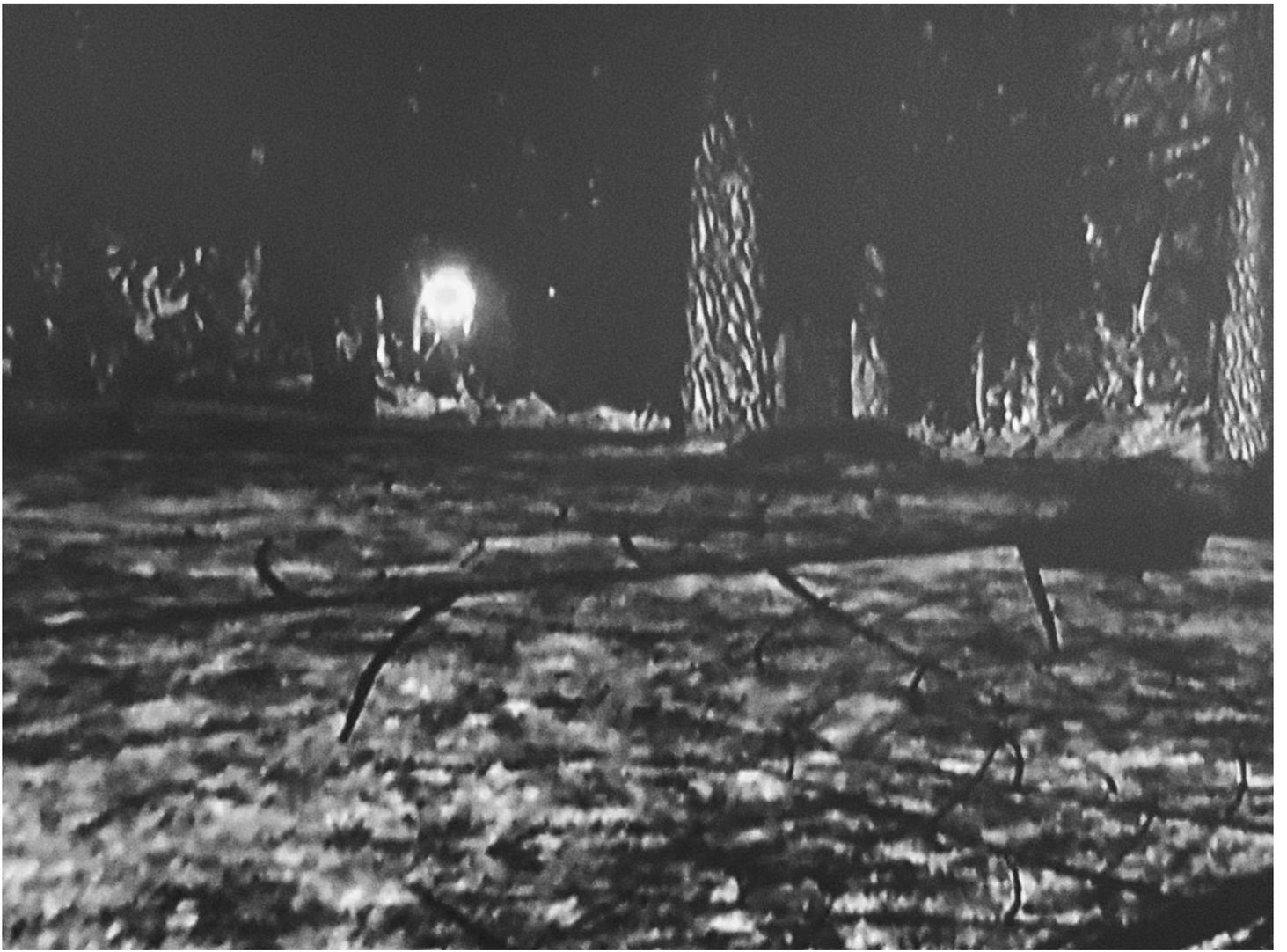
"Now bear this in mind, before this encounter I saw and heard a lot of strange things in that forest. I could tell you stories that would bend your bones, so every time I went poaching, I always took my camera always hoping to capture some evidence."

The case involved military witnesses from the twin NATO bases RAF Woodbridge and RAF Bentwaters in Suffolk who saw strange lights in late December 1980.

THE BRITISH ROSWELL

Previously unseen pics 'show UFO in Suffolk woods in 1980'





The photos appear to show the orb moving across the sky



The photos appear to show the orb floating through the sky over the trees



The alleged witness says what he saw was 'definitely extra terrestrial'

Two airmen, Staff Sgt Jim Penniston and Airman John Burroughs, claim they got so close to a triangular craft they actually touched it.

Colonel Halt then led a military team into the forest to investigate the sightings.

They also saw strange lights and a red orb with a black centre "winking" back at them and claimed a UFO fired a beam of light near their feet.

Halt later wrote a memo to the MOD describing the freakish incident but it was filed away by defence chiefs.

The poacher said: "I saw a basketball sized red orb, it had a black centre like a pupil and looked just like an eye winking at you, just like Halt explained it.



For the last 40 years the Rendlesham Forest incident has been regarded as Britain's most famous UFO sighting
Credit: Getty - Contributor



US Airforce colonel Charles Halt, pictured, led an investigation into the incident

"It was zig zagging between the trees, strange, freaked me out, weird, proper not right, I saw it before Halt.

"It passed me first. Halt and his team were about 200 meters away, I could hear all the noise. Later I saw another UFO - it was firing beams of light down to the ground, definitely looking for something, God knows what.

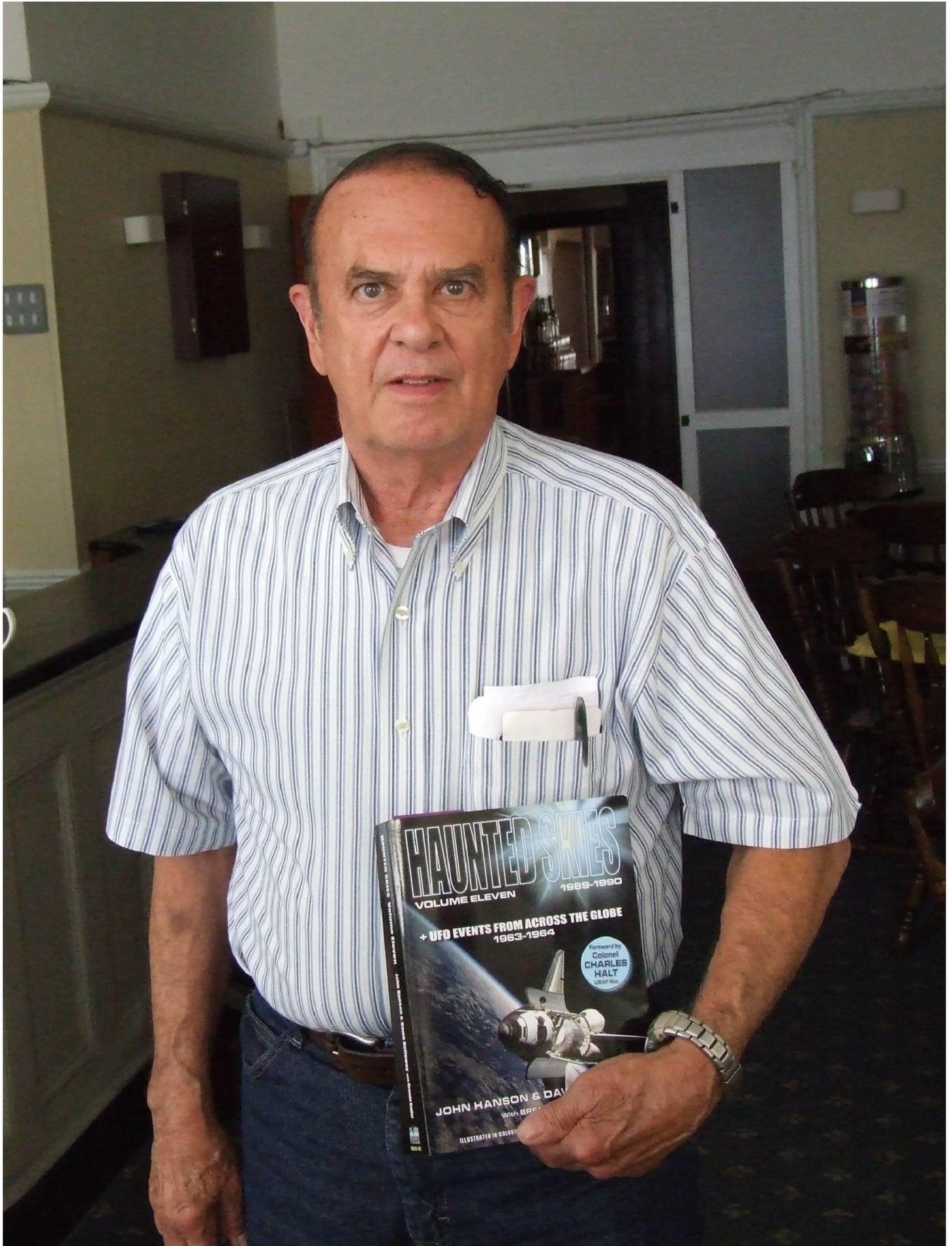
"I tell you, what I witnessed was simply incredible, definitely extra-terrestrial. No two ways about it.

"You can read books and watch TV shows about it, but I'm telling you, you had to be there to really understand and appreciate just how incredible this thing was, changed my life forever.

"I've sat on this information for over 40 years and it feels good to get it out and show the truth.

"After this thing happened, I was followed for weeks, I had my phone tapped - scary time."

The poacher submitted his photos and story anonymously through the UFO Casebook [website](#), which collects information about UFO sightings from around the world.



Now retired, Halt was sent into the forest to debunk an earlier sighting when he says a UFO fired a beam of light at him and his men.

British UFO sleuth Philip Mantle, a former director of investigations for the British UFO Research Association, is keeping an open mind on the photos.

He said: "With today's digital technology I have become very wary of any alleged UFO photographs, even more so when the photographer is anonymous as he is here with these pictures.

"Before I could come to any conclusions, I would have to know a lot more detail about the type of camera, the film, the exposure and so on. Remember, if these photos are authentic and taken in 1980, they would be on film and not digital.

"Until I have more information on these photos the jury remains open but I would have to proceed with the utmost caution."

Various theories to explain the Rendlesham case have been offered over the years including a lighthouse, a Russian satellite re-entry to a stolen truck of manure that was set on fire in the forest.

Last year Brit researcher Nick Redfern put forward another possible explanation for what happened in his book 'The Rendlesham Forest UFO Conspiracy'.