

126

Loose Minute

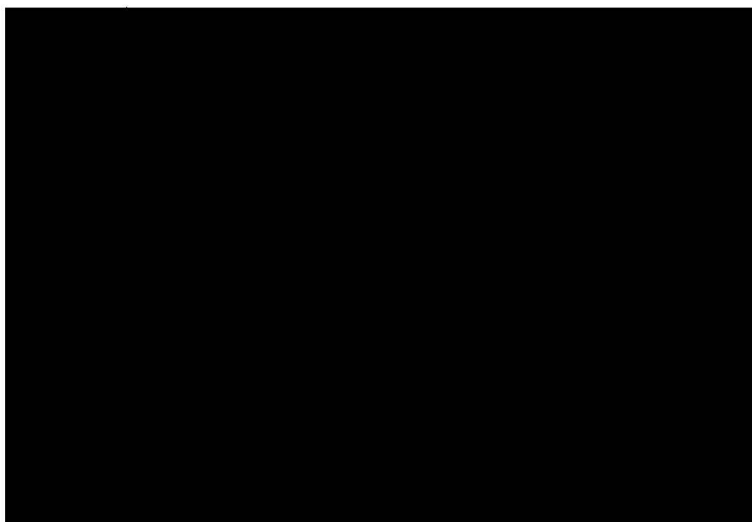
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3 September 2001

DAS(Lower Airspace) (Ops & Plans) - 

EASTERN DAILY PRESS: RENDLESHAM

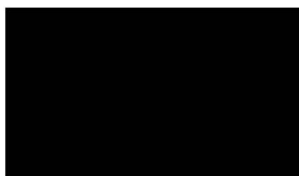
1. One of my record reviewers, now retired, has sent me these pages from the Eastern Daily Press.
2. It may be of interest!



40

Thanks

for your info. This is what the Eastern Daily Press had to say about the release of the Rendlesham Forest files.



# Eastern Daily Press

TODAY'S PULL-OUTS: TV & RADIO GUIDE, JOBSSEARCH

THE COUNTRY'S TOP-SELLING REGIONAL MORNING NEWSPAPER

www.edp24.co.uk


Thursday, August 30, 2001 45p

As I recall, most daily press coverage does not (yet) extend to that most excellent of newspapers, the EDP. In case you have not seen it, the address may be a useful addition to your file. I should, of course, NOT be interfering into any correspondence with the Editor about the renovations with which UFO reports have begun (or are) varied!

Yours truly,

34/8

**MEET THE NEW BOSS**

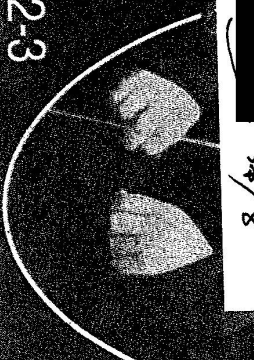


Neil In  
charge at Carrow Road - Back Page

**JOBS GUIDE** 16 pages inside

**111 YEARS**

Pages 2-3



# SECRET REFORM ON UFO OPENED

## MoD files reveal US military inquiry into East Anglia sightings

A top-level investigation was ordered by British and US military experts into East Anglia's most famous UFO sightings, documents released by the Government reveal.

Contrary to the official line that the sighting in Rendlesham Forest 21 years ago was "not taken seriously", the United States Air Force and the Ministry of Defence both began full inquiries into the incident.

But some taped evidence gathered by the Americans was passed direct to senior personnel and not shared with British officials, the newly-released documents show.

Problems were also recorded on equipment at RAF Watton in Norfolk, more than 40 miles away from the alleged incident.

The MoD this week bowed to sustained pressure and finally opened the official file on the sighting - prompted by claims from American servicemen that they saw a UFO near Woodbridge air base in 1980.

The file has been made public nine years earlier than planned

and was unveiled after the Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton asked 16 questions in the House of Lords since January.

Lord Hill-Norton demanded answers to issues raised by author Georgina Bruni in her book You Can't Tell The People, billed as the definitive account of the unidentified flying object mystery.

Lord Hill-Norton has been campaigning for several years to persuade the Ministry of Defence to give more details on the object, allegedly seen by Americans near the east gate of Woodbridge air base just after Christmas 1980.

Colonel Charles Halt was deputy commander at Bentwaters air base and his memo detailed the sighting of "unusual lights".

Two patrolmen who investigated saw a metallic triangular object hovering or on legs with a pulsing red light on top and a bank of blue lights underneath.

It then reportedly disappeared through the forest and animals on a nearby farm went into a frenzy.

The next day, three depressions 1.5m deep and 7m in diameter were found where the object had allegedly been sighted on the ground.

Since the sightings, there has been worldwide interest in the incident and scores of attempts to explain what the servicemen claimed to have seen.

Sceptics claim the main object was probably a brilliant meteor, the radiation readings were caused by natural sources and that the other lights were stars.

In 1997, Lord Hill-Norton wrote to the then defence minister Lord Gilbert saying: "My position, both privately and publicly expressed over the last dozen years or more, is that there are only two possibilities.

"Either an intrusion into our air space and a landing by unidentified craft took place at Rendlesham, as described.

"Or the deputy commander of an operational, nuclear-armed US Air Force base in England and a large number of his enlisted men were either hallucinating or lying."

After the government file was opened, Ms Bruni said: "The official view has always been that the US Air Force and MoD did not take the UFOs seriously and that


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**8 COMMENTARY**

Eastern Daily Press, Friday, August 31, 2001



**Martin Mears**  
IN MY VIEW

**A new weapon for the censor**

Over the years the English libel laws have enabled every kind of crook and con-man to flourish with impunity. These laws have received powerful reinforcement from the courts in a recent ruling on the 1997 Protection from Harassment Act. This Act provides a remedy in damages to a person who claims to be the victim of a course of conduct which amounts to harassment.

The complainant can also apply for a restraining injunction and for the issue of a warrant of arrest. Finally, harassment constitutes a criminal offence carrying a fine or a possible six-month prison sentence.

The Act does not define harassment but says that "harassing a person includes alarming the person or causing the person distress". It is important to remember the context in which the Harassment Act was passed. Its particular purpose was to deter and punish stalkers. As worded, however, it would cover most situations where one person was conducting a personal vendetta against another (by, for instance, anonymous letters). So far so good.

Neither the sponsors of the Act nor anyone else imagined that the Act might be directed at comments made in the Press. In this area, God knows, the law already provides sufficient deterrents. In the case of Esther Thomas v News Group Newspapers, the Court of Appeal has now ruled in effect that Britain's uniquely restrictive libel laws do not go far enough.

Ms Thomas was a civilian clerk employed by the City of London Police. She had made a complaint about alleged racist behaviour by police officers towards a Somali woman asylum-seeker. This complaint resulted in the demolition of two police sergeants and a fine on a police constable.

When these facts became public, The Sun newspaper took against Ms Thomas presenting her (wholly unfairly for all I know) as an unattractive whistle-blower who from an excess of zeal had shopped her colleagues to their politically correct superiors. The paper also mentioned (gratuitously, as it appears) the fact that Ms Thomas is black.

Subsequently, The Sun published a number of critical readers' letters with an editorial comment. There followed a further article which reported that colleagues had tried to organise a whip-round to pay the constable's fine.

All this argued Ms Thomas, amounted to "harassment" within the meaning of the 1997 Act. If Ms Thomas had consulted libel lawyers their first question would have been: "Are these allegations true or false?" If false, could they be justified as legitimate "fair comment"? If neither true nor fair comment, Ms Thomas could expect to join the crowded ranks of recipients of libel damages. Just as, as is well known, do not like the tabloids. But, as it appears, she was advised to bring her claim under the Harassment Act, an Act never intended to apply to cases like hers. She is now seeking damages for "distress and anxiety".

The newspaper applied to have her case struck out. This application failed in the Lambeth County Court and it has now failed in the Court of Appeal. The Sun's Counsel, Desmond Browne QC, has described the Appeal Court's ruling as making the judges "censors or licensors of the Press". This is no exaggeration.

Under the libel laws The Sun would have a complete defence to Ms Thomas' claim simply by showing that its criticisms were true (if indeed they were). Failing that, it would have to convince a jury that her actions were of public interest and that it was entitled to comment adversely on them provided it was not actuated by malice.

Under the Harassment Act, however, truth as such is no defence. Neither is fair comment. The defendant has to show that "in the particular circumstances the pursuit of the course of conduct (ie the alleged harassment) was reasonable". Who is to decide what is "reasonable"? Not a jury (as in a libel trial) but the trial judge. It is, of course, the classic role of a censor to decide what is "reasonable" to be published. And in the context of press treatment of individuals what concept is more subjective than reasonableness? Think, for instance, of Mary Archer - could she not argue that all the press coverage of the past few weeks amounted to harassment?

The Human Rights Act of 1998 was passed in the expectation that the courts would be a more powerful protector of basic rights (including freedom of expression) than the politicians. Some hope!

**Mystery**

The mystery of the famous UFO 'sighting' in Rendlesham Forest in 1980 has fascinated UFO investigators for years and generated many theories over whether it was a hoax, a hallucination or an elaborate cover-up. Now, 21 years on, the release of new MOD files reveals officials took the case seriously enough to investigate it. **JO GREEN** asks 'are we any closer to solving the mystery?'

The story of three American airmen's close encounter with a UFO in Rendlesham Forest in December 1980 has become the stuff of legend.

And in the 21 years since the story first broke, scores of experts have attempted to explain what really happened in the early hours of December 26 and 27 when lights were seen hovering in woodland between the airbases at Bentwaters and Woodbridge.

The lights were first spotted at about 11pm by a local resident and then at 12pm by two airmen on security duty at the east gate at Woodbridge: John Burroughs and Budd Parker.

Concerned that a plane could have crashed, they got permission to go off-base and investigate with their patrol sergeant, Jim Peniston.

But on entering the forest, which separates Woodbridge from Bentwaters, they found a metallic object, about the size of a car, hovering among the trees and giving off a bright white light.

In accounts written afterwards, one airman said he saw little green men hovering underneath the craft, as if they were carrying out repairs, before the object moved away and disappeared.

The others reported symbols on the side of the craft and said the air crackled with electricity so that their hair stood on end. The next morning, three depressions, about 7in across and 1.5in deep, were found on the ground where the object was seen. The trees were reported as scorched, with their tops broken off as if something had smashed into them. Locals also reported seeing lights in the sky.

Amazingly, the UFO returned the next night, and on this occasion, Col Charles Halt, of Bentwaters airbase, was sent to look into it. He recorded the search on audio tape and led a party out into the forest with Geiger counters and night-powered arc lights that continually failed, leaving him and his colleagues literally in the dark. Then at one stage, "all hell



broke loose" and his tape recording says: "Now we observe what appears to be a beam of light coming down towards the ground - this is unreal."

Afterwards, he said: "I'm certainly glad we made the tape, because if we hadn't made the tape, even I would have trouble believing what happened that night... It appeared to have molten metal dripping off it, just like falling to the ground, but I didn't see any evidence of anything on the ground. I just couldn't believe what I was seeing, none of us could. Here I am, a senior official that routinely denies this sort of thing and diligently works to debunk them and I'm involved in the middle of something I can't explain."

Col Halt reported his findings but heard nothing to suggest the case was being taken further, although he and other officers noticed unusual levels of activity on the airbase. "To this day I'm very puzzled why no one ever came back and asked for additional information, asked questions, or even interviewed me. It doesn't really add up," he said in 1994.

When the story broke, there was excitement worldwide and the Rendlesham Forest incident was splashed across every newspaper.

And today it remains one of the best-known and most perplexing UFO mysteries, on a par with the famous Roswell case, where aliens alleged to have crash landed in the American desert were believed to have been picked up by the military and held secretly for experiments and observation.

Scores of investigators have studied Rendlesham's UFO story, each coming up with a different theory, and it was this huge interest that prompted Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton to demand the MOD open their case files to the public and tell people what happened.

Unfortunately, the opening of the files earlier this week doesn't do that - and five crucial files remain locked away on the grounds that releasing them would damage Anglo-American relations.

Much of what the opened files reveal simply confirms - for example, that British and American military experts already suspected - that radar problems were recorded on equipment at

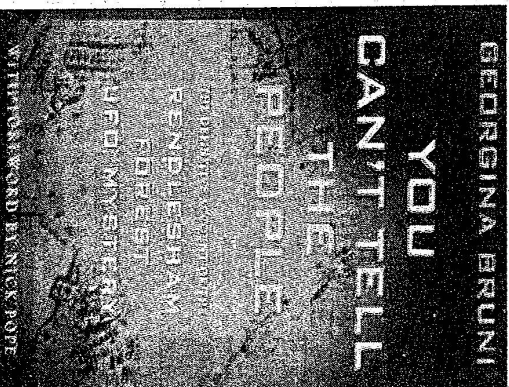
**ABOVE:** Red Rose Chain Theatre Company during rehearsals for UFO Bentwaters, a play based on the incident.

**RIGHT:** Former policeman David King, from Trintley, was on duty when a UFO was alleged to have landed in Rendlesham Forest 21 years ago. He believes it was the light from Orford Ness lighthouse.

RAF Watton, 40 miles away. What they don't do is answer the question everyone wants to know - what caused the Rendlesham Forest incident? One person who thinks he knows is journalist and sceptic Simon Hoggart, who has co-written a book, Bizarre Beliefs. In it he claims the Rendlesham "UFO" was nothing more than the pulsing lights of Orford Ness lighthouse. "Local people are not baffled, they know about the lighthouse," he said.

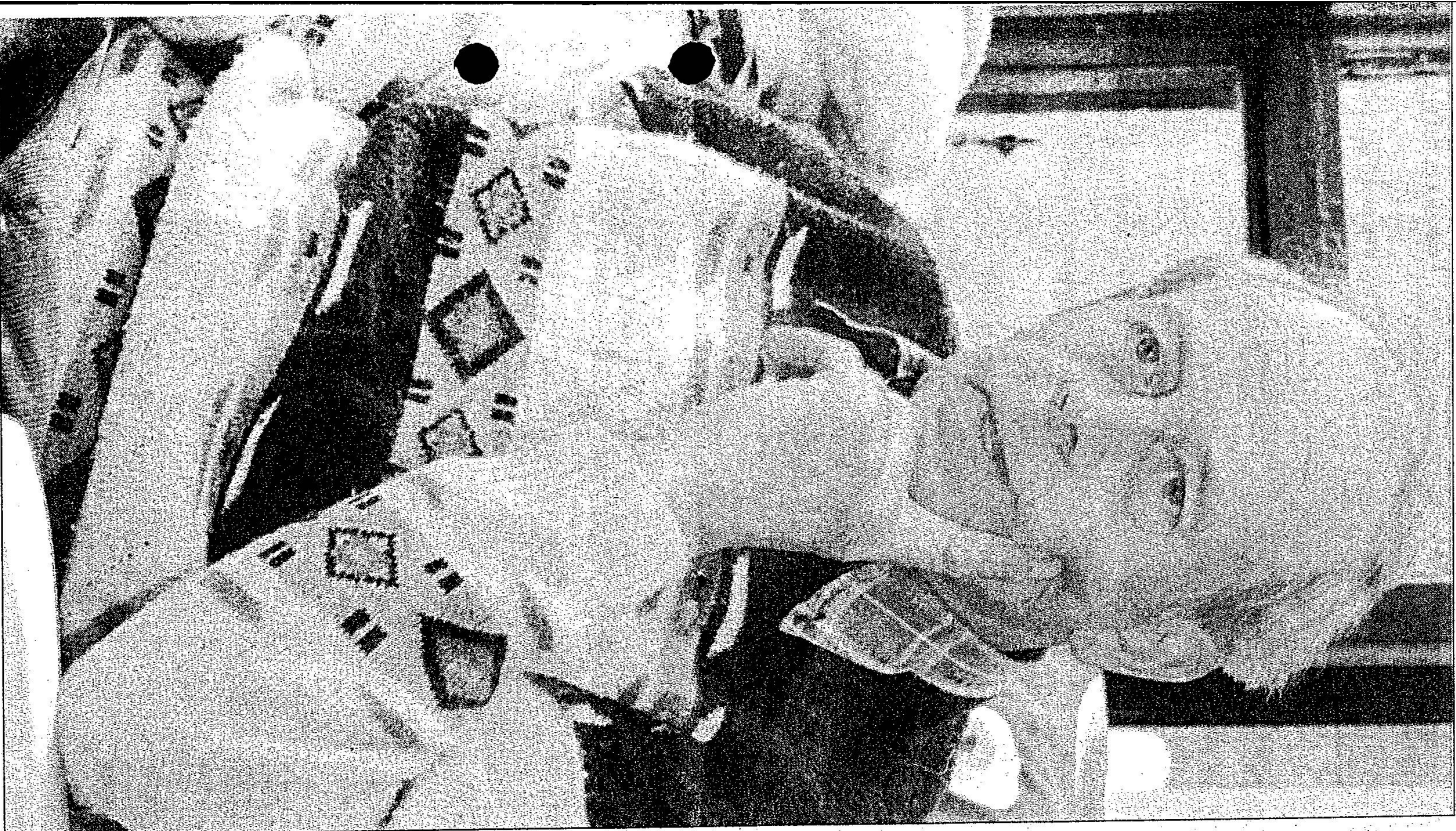
"The lights of the lighthouse come from exactly the same direction as those seen by the airmen and when a BBC crew went to the site with investigator Ian Ridpath, who researched our book, they found that the forest is actually on a higher level than the coastline.

"This means when you stand there, the lighthouse looks like it's just 100 yards away and the lights look as though they're in the forest. The things for the UFO lights are the same as they are for the pulsing lights of the lighthouse and



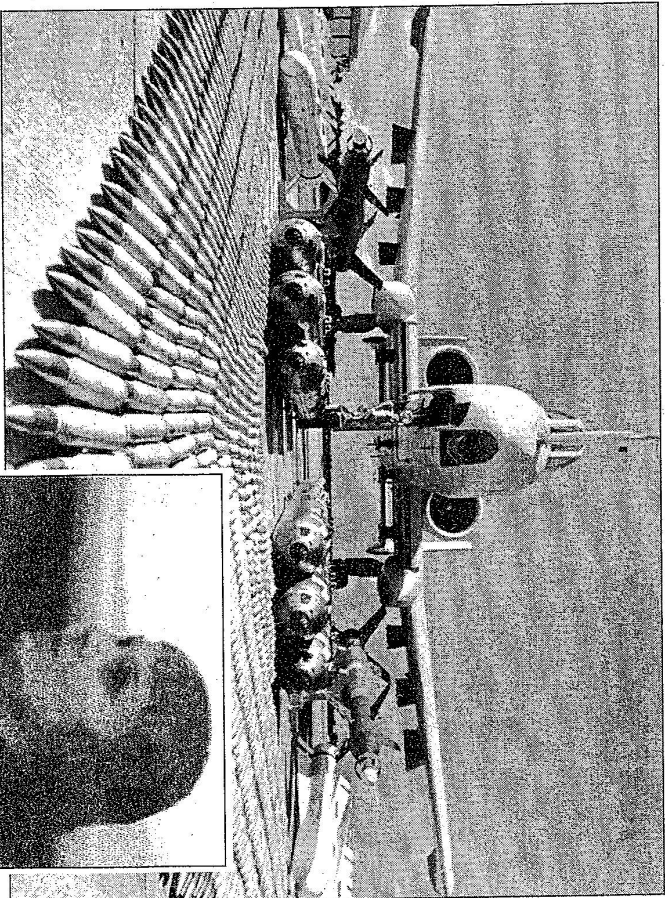
**CLAIMS:** Georgina Bruni's book has led to pressure for the early release of official papers on the case.

# in the forest

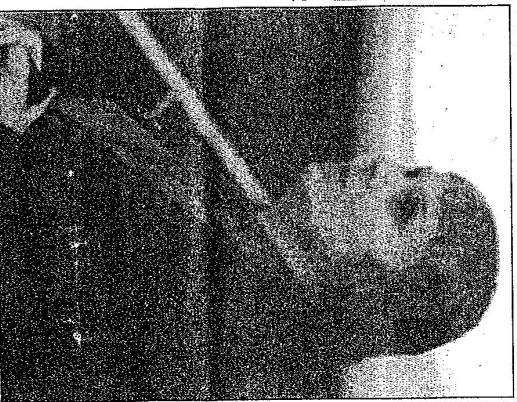


Pictures: EDP LIBRARY

**RIGHT: An A10 and its payload of shells and missiles pictured at Bentwaters airbase in 1979, a year before the alleged sighting.**



**CAMPAIN: Author Jenny Randles - pictured speaking at Woodbridge in 1998 - has made a strong case that the airman did see a UFO, and that the authorities tried to cover up the report.**



course, but I think it's right to provide some rational alternatives."

There are other theories, including the suggestion that the spacecraft was a Russian rocket burning up in the atmosphere or a meteor falling to earth. Trees in the area where the sightings were made were felled shortly afterwards - some said it was because of the high radiation, others that it was simply coincidence. Other theories say the craft could have been a spy satellite coming to earth. Woodbridge was home to the 67th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron, says one UFO website, and as such answered directly to the Department of Defence in Washington and was one of a few equipped with satellite-recovery aircraft.

**B**ut dedicated UFO investigators have other views. Author Jenny Randles leads the field in UFO literature and has made a strong case to support the airman's claims that an alien craft did land in Suffolk and the MoD and American military covered it up. Similarly, author Georgina Bruni believes there is more to the case than coincidence and it was issues raised in her book, *You Can't Tell the People*, that prompted Lord Hill-Norton to pressure the MoD into releasing their case files nine years early.

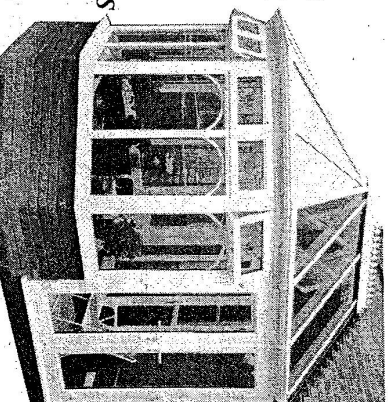
In 1997, he said he believed there were only two possible explanations for the Rendlesham incident. Either an intrusion into our airspace and a landing by unidentified craft took place at Rendlesham, as described.

"Or the deputy commander of an operational, nuclear-armed US Air Force base and a large number of his enlisted men were either hallucinating or lying," he said.

With little new evidence likely to surface on the case, the mystery of Rendlesham is as puzzling as ever and there seems little hope of a breakthrough while the MoD continues to keep some information top secret.

The question for researchers, of course, is are the files closed to keep us from finding the answer - or is the ministry also as much in the dark? The truth is out there.

■ COMMENT - Page 28



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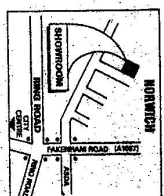
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the lighthouse beam appears to move between the trees, exactly the way the airman describe it.

"Jan met a local forester, Vince Thirkettle, who said he had gone into the forest the day after the alleged sighting and looked at the depressions in the ground. He said they did not make an exact triangle and they were actually old rabbit diggings which had been covered up with pine needles. And the burn marks on the trees were cuts done deliberately to show foresters which trees needed to be felled. The cuts had just filled up with resin and looked burned.

"Also, the dates Col Hal recorded were wrong and he's admitted that. The first sighting actually happened on December 26, not the 27, as he said, and this was the night a very bright meteorite was seen in the sky over East Anglia, giving off a bright white light. What we have here is a number of completely separate items strung

together in hindsight to fit the story. "Even the fact that RAF Watton's radar 40 miles away had problems doesn't prove anything. That's like saying someone's toaster broke 40 miles away so it must be linked to the UFO."

Mr Hoggart has studied several UFO sightings and says there is always a pattern. By chance, several odd things happen and all these are brought together to build up a mystery.

"It's exactly the same with Roswell, that turned out to be a USAF balloon to detect radiation' but nobody who believes in UFOs accepts that. They run them together and say there must be a cover-up and when the military then refuses to release its files, that adds to the mystery. I suspect that in the Rendlesham case the files probably say something stupid about the 'bloody Yanks' and that's why they won't release them. Nothing we say will change some people's minds, of

## Files on UFO sighting reveal top-level investigation

**■ FROM PAGE ONE**  
they were of no defence significance."  
"For 21 years the Ministry of Defence has claimed that the only report in their file was Colonel Halt's memorandum, that the incident was of no defence significance and that no UFOs

were tracked on radar."  
But Ms Brunni has read the official file and she said it revealed:  
"Vital evidence which proves that those at higher levels in the air force and Government did take the Rendlesham Forest incident seriously enough to begin an investigation."  
"Taped evidence was handed to

General Gabriel, chief of the United States Air Force in Europe and was not shared with Britain's MoD.  
"Several departments in the MoD were involved in an investigation, including defence intelligence staff."  
"That problems arose with equipment at RAF Watton during the incident."

Defence intelligence staff considered radiation readings to be significantly higher than normal.  
"The United States Air Force did carry out its own investigation."  
"The MoD considered sanitising Col Halt's memorandum prior to its release due to concern over intelligence and national security."  
David Clarke, a researcher at Sheffield University who is writing a book on UFOs, has asked for five more files to be released.  
They are being withheld on the grounds that they contain confidential briefings to ministers, relate to national security, or affect Britain's relations with the United States.

Main picture: STEVE ADAMS

## PLANS ■ Meeting at Carrow Road

# Complex 'could be seven storeys'

Apartments and a hotel planned for land beside Norwich City's ground could rise to seven storeys - the height of the stadium's tallest stand.

Last night, people already living in the shadow of Carrow Road protested over the club's planned development and called for 'The Matings' - a row of historic houses behind the South Stand - not to be demolished to make way for a 330-space decked car park.

They vented their anger at a public meeting at the football club last night at which the club's planning consultant sought to assure them that efforts were being made to incorporate the buildings into the scheme.

But their fears about the impact of the apartments, hotel, fitness and leisure centre, car parks and rebuilt South Stand were not eased by the news that some of the apartment complexes could be seven storeys high.

"The hope is that on this river frontage scheme we can go to a fairly high level," said planning consultant Mike Carpenter.

"The reason we think we can do this is because of the height of the buildings that already exist. The Norwich and Peterborough Stand is frankly an ugly building from the back and we think that we may get up to seven storeys."

Mr Carpenter agreed that 'The Matings' - built in 1824 - was an attractive building which should remain if it were possible, but said

By RICHARD BALLS  
Public Affairs Correspondent

they were not listed.  
He had asked the architects if there was any way they could form part of the development and that was still being looked at.

"I am not saying we are going to demolish them come what may, but it certainly has its major difficulties and I make no bones about that," he said.

The Harbour Triangle Residents' Association is campaigning to save the Matings. The row of houses is expected to be knocked down to make space for a large car park and a children's play area next to the site is to become part of a fitness and leisure centre.

As well as a new 6000-seat South Stand, the club wants to build a 120-150-bedroom hotel on the corner of Carrow Road.  
The land to the rear of the South Stand was bought by former Norwich City chairman Robert Chase from Angela Matings and has since been used as a car park.

Molly Barrett, a member of the residents' association, said after the meeting: "It is fairly obvious the football club, while they are not looking to extract every single penny from the site, are looking to make the best financial advantage that they can."  
"I just hope that promises that have been made about more consultation with people are kept."



INSIGHTS: Project manager Heather Wallis working on the archaeological dig in the grounds of Norwich Cathedral which has revealed medieval trading links with Europe.

## Dig reveals ancient trade links

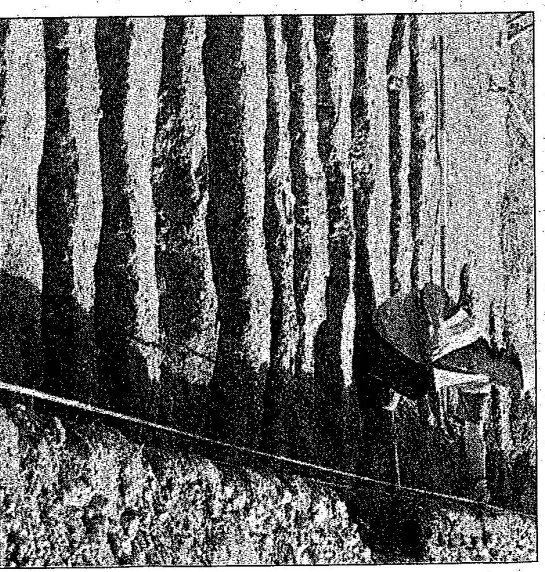
Nowadays, many people balk at the thought of closer trade relations with Europe.  
But an archaeological dig at Norwich Cathedral has unearthed some fascinating evidence of the close links that Norfolk forged with its overseas partners some 500 years ago.

A collection of small decorative cloth seals have been discovered during the excavation of the site, to the south side of the cathedral's cloisters.  
Heather Wallis, project manager for Norfolk Archaeology Unit, said: "They are lead seals which were used in the European textile industry."  
"They are attached to individual pieces of cloth as a way of quality control. They indicated where the cloth came from, it is almost like a modern day kite mark."

"The nicest one we have found has got a pinecone on one side and the letter A on the other. It is from Augsburg in Germany."

"The pinecone would have been the city's heraldic badge and the letter A, the first letter of its name," she said. "It proves that we had trade links with Germany all those years ago."

She said that they had found more than 100 metal and glass objects during the dig so far.  
It is hoped that the artefacts will give archaeologists an insight into the living and working history of



CLUES: A post-medieval drainage system emerging from the soil.

Norwich Cathedral.  
The team has also unearthed the remains of garden features, a water drainage system and lead from the windows dating back to the 1500s.

Archaeologists started the dig on July 23 and it is expected to last another month before building work begins on the site to create a new restaurant and kitchen for the cathedral.

The area, which is 40 metres by 12 metres in size, was once the site of the monks' refectory.  
During the second phase of the dig, which is likely to start next February, experts are hoping to find the old floor surface of the refectory, along with the dias at one end for the high table, and the pulpit used for readings.

## £6m aid package for trawlermen gets cautious welcome

A scheme is under way to help fishermen who are faced with diminishing catches to decommission their trawlers - but you wouldn't have thought such an initiative was needed in Lowestoft yesterday.

The £6 million aid package was announced earlier this year by fisheries minister Elliot Morley to

help the industry restructure itself, enabling struggling trawlermen to receive financial support for decommissioning their vessels.

But the irony at Britain's most easterly point yesterday was that two trawlers remained docked, unable to go out to sea because of a lack of crew.

"This sort of thing happens from

time to time," said Hugh Sims, chief executive of the Lowestoft Fish Producers' Organisation.

There are only about 200 fishermen in the town today, as opposed to about 1000 just 20 years ago.

"There are barely enough fishermen in Lowestoft nowadays, and when some of them take a holiday - which, of course, is their

right - it makes it very, very difficult to find crew to take the boats out," Mr Sims said.

The £6 million is part of a £23.5 million package that also includes £11 million worth of grants aimed at improving the quality and value of the fish caught.

But although Mr Sims said he supported the Fishing Vessel

Decommissioning Scheme, he criticised the fact that only £5 million had been made available for it.

Mr Sims said that £25 million had been made available to Scottish fishermen for decommissioning in a similar programme.

He said he felt that the same sum should have been made available south of the border.

# Eastern Daily Press

Friday, August 31, 2001 No 40,601

## Erosion of trust in our doctors

**A**fter Dr Harold Shipman had been convicted last year of murdering 15 patients, a relative of a victim asked: "If you can't trust your doctor, whom can you trust?"

The same question will have been put by many people with regard to the Alder Hey children's hospital in Liverpool and the Bristol Royal Infirmary. And it can also be asked about Loughborough GP Peter Green who was given an eight-year jail sentence last year for indecently assaulting five male patients.

Other questions spring to mind. Principally - and in each of these stories - why did it take so long for the truth to come out? An official review concluded there were as many as 345 suspicious deaths in Shipman's 24-year career.

At Alder Hey Professor Dick van Velzen ordered the systematic and illegal stripping of organs from the bodies of children over a seven-year period. The death rate among babies undergoing open heart surgery in the Bristol hospital was abnormally high over a four-year stretch. And concerns about Green were voiced for 12 years before he was referred to the General Medical Council.

A common theme in these scandals is that of inadequate monitoring of the work of doctors and insufficient safeguards for patients and relatives.

Health Secretary Alan Milburn - who must be anxious about the rate at which he is having to deal with reports on aspects of the NHS which have gone wrong - emphasised last month that there must be a cultural change which results in the health service being run for the benefit of patients rather than doctors.

His point has been heavily undermined by the experiences of the long-ignored victims of Green. Incompetent and malign doctors are, of course, a tiny exception. But they exist, and our trust in the NHS must not be eroded by them.

## Still unidentified

**T**he truth is out there. But are we any closer to it now that the Ministry of Defence has opened one of its real-life X-files on the alleged sighting of a UFO in Rendlesham Forest, near Woodbridge, in 1980?

No, we are not. What we do now know is that the MOD and the United States Air Force did take reports of the incident seriously, and that they both began full inquiries into what happened.

But what conclusions did they reach? Did they actually find anything to support the idea that a UFO was taking a close look at the Woodbridge and Bentwaters air bases? We still don't know, and a number of other official files on the subject remain closed on grounds of national security and the wish to keep advice to ministers confidential.

The continuing secrecy encourages those who suspect that there was something sinister which the authorities still wish to hide - possibly a UFO or perhaps a military incident originating in the old Soviet Union.

Don't expect much more to be revealed in 2010 under the 30-year rule. The probability is that we shall never find out. As fans of Mulder and Scully are well aware, that is part of the lure.

## Cross purposes

**B**eaautiful objects can be put to bad use, and the symbol of the cross has certainly been identified on countless occasions over the centuries with fanaticism and oppression rather than peace and love. Notwithstanding this background, the assault on the Bury Cross by American historian Thomas Hoving is extraordinary. It was used, he says, to incite a massacre of Jews in Bury St Edmunds in 1190, and it was as if "Hitler and Michelangelo got together."

To paraphrase Mr Hoving, Goebels would have loved such vivid phraseology. The historical linkage is no less dubious. And his case invites the question: what's the point?

### ▼ BIBLE TEXT

The Lord preserveth all them that love him: but all the wicked will he destroy.

- Psalm 145, 20

**GREEN ELEGANCE:** A three-acre Victorian town garden in the centre of Norwich, which is undergoing restoration by volunteers, is open in aid of National Gardens Scheme on Sunday afternoon. The Plantation Garden, off Earham Road, which is near St John's Roman Catholic Cathedral, was created between 1895 and 1897 in a former medieval chalk quarry. It has many remarkable architectural features including a 30ft-high Gothic fountain. Admission £2, children free, between 2pm and 5pm.



Picture: NATASHA LYSTER

## Extra hours are essential

**Mrs C NURSE, Sydney Dye Court, Spole.**

David Sawtell writes (EDP, August 28) that British working hours are too long and the holidays are too short. Is it not more important to make sure workers can earn a realistic basic wage before trying to cut the amount of hours people are working?

Does he not realise that many people who work above 48 hours each week do so because their rate of pay means that if they do not work the extra hours they can not take home a living wage?

There is not much point in working fewer hours and having longer holidays if you cannot earn enough money in those hours to keep a roof over your head and feed your family, not to mention run your car, so that it is possible to get away from the house occasionally (if you still have one!).

## Good use for waste tyres

**G and A VIGRASS, Bexwell Road, Dovenham Market.**

Most German cities incinerate their tyres. The heat they generate is phenomenal. They cut them up into small pieces, about the size of your fist. They burn to almost nothing.

They use the heat generated for the good of the city. The gases are returned so that nothing poisonous is emitted. Not only that but they incinerate practically all their household waste as well, giving benefits not harmful to the environment.

The enormous dump of tyres in Norfolk (EDP, August 27) need not be a problem - if only someone would take responsibility.

## Poster image of Salisbury

**ALAN WEYMAN, Ballygate, Beccles.**

Nice to see all those British Railways posters (EDP, August 30), though I would point out that the cathedral image depicted Salisbury rather than Norwich Cathedral.

I won't query the appropriateness of describing what was perhaps a second world war exhortation as an "echo" of the Countryside Alliance's current struggles.

# Finding home is tough task

**BRENDA ANDREWS, Glebe Avenue, Hunstanton.**

I am employed full time, working on average 45 hours a week as a waitress in a local hotel. I am loving every minute of it! I am earning more than the average minimum wage for somebody of my age.

Next September my fiancé and I are to be married. Now for us the daunting task of finding somewhere to live lies ahead.

We have been told by various banks and building societies that as my fiancé is a student his wages from his part-time job will not be taken into account. So we start looking for houses to buy with our £26,000 we were quoted for a mortgage.

After getting nowhere with several estate agents we are becoming very worried for our future. To be able to get a house within our price range we have

to move at least 15 miles away, leave our jobs and families and the area in which we both grew up and move into an area which is troubled with arson, car crime, burglaries and drug-related offences.

It was suggested to us that we apply for council housing. This is only available to people if they get enough points on their system. We don't even have enough points to be eligible to apply. Let alone move into one!

Yet despite this we have been told that we would be in a better position if we were unemployed, claiming benefits and/or had children.

Neither of us has been in trouble with the police or has claimed benefits and we don't have children. So what do we do now?

People have suggested we rent somewhere, but there again we can't afford the rent in this area.

To us the problem is quite clear. We are being forced out of the housing market by people buying second homes.

For three-quarters of the year we watch them stand empty with a sickening feeling knowing that we will eventually be losing our entire area to people living the other end of the country - and there seems to be nothing we can do to stop it.

My family were born and bred in Burnham Market and the surrounding villages.

Unfortunately we had to move 14 miles away when we outgrew the house we lived in due to it being "the place to be seen in". That was 13 years ago. Now the situation is getting worse.

All we want is a chance to have a positive future living near our nearest and dearest in an area which isn't just "trendy" and "quant". It's our home!

## School will take fresh approach to learning

**DIANA STEPHENSON, School Lane, Sprowston.**

Congratulations to the authors of Let Our Children Learn for highlighting not only the shortcomings of our education system, but the way forward.

Surely the Government must learn to listen to teachers and parents who want to encourage their children to be lifelong learners.

.....  
**HAVE YOUR SAY:** Write to: The Letters Editor, Eastern Daily Press, Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich, NR1 1RE. Or fax: 01603 612930. Or e-mail to: EDPletters@ecn.co.uk Give a full address, and a phone number if available. All letters must be signed. Please keep letters short and write on one side of the paper only.  
 .....

DAILY STAR  
30/08/01

125

# DON'T TELL ANYONE, BUT THE ALIENS HAVE LANDED

by JOHN DORAN

**TOP SECRET documents could prove that aliens have LANDED on Earth, it was claimed last night.**

But MOD officials are still refusing to release the papers, which UFO-hunters say may show that extra-terrestrials have actually touched down.

The documents relate to the sighting, by high-ranking Royal Air Force officers, of a mysterious flying craft - "metallic in appearance and triangular in shape" - which was spotted landing in a Suffolk forest.

According to the witnesses: "The strange, glowing object had a pulsing, red light on top and a bank of blue lights underneath it," and caused local farm animals to go into a frenzy as it passed over.



COVER-UP: Could it be ET?

## Shocked

Lieutenant Colonel Charles Halt, Commander of the US Air Force Bentwaters base near Woodbridge, Suffolk, said that originally it was thought that an aeroplane had crash-landed, after "unusual lights" had been seen in the forest.

But after racing with three other servicemen to the woods, Halt saw something that looked like a "large, winking eye".

And when his men went to investigate the next day, they were shocked to find three indentations in the ground and traces of radiation. An



CLOSE ENCOUNTER: Are our Intergalactic neighbours dropping in?

RAF big-wig, Squadron Leader Donald Moreland, also confirmed that there had been "some mysterious sightings".

Now university researcher Dr David Clarke has discovered five top secret documents, which could prove there really WERE aliens on English soil.

But he says publishing the reports was blocked by worried defence top brass. Dr

Clarke demanded that the papers should be released immediately.

## Revealing

He said: "We had US servicemen at a Nato base chasing UFOs in a forest in the middle of the night."

The sighting, which happened in December 1960, was the subject of a book called *You Can't Tell The People*, by Georgia Bruni. The author

even got hold of a tape recording of Lt Col Halt during the sighting.

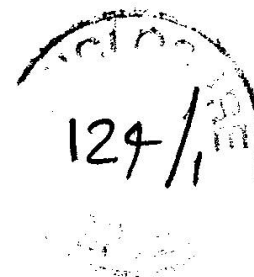
On it, he can be heard whispering: "No doubt about it - there's some kind of flashing, red light. It's like the pupil of an eye looking at you, winking."

He said later: "I thought we were dealing with an extra-terrestrial visitation. I can't say I saw beings - I saw outlines of something."

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Date:	Pages:

*for your info*



LOOSE MINUTE

D/DAS/64/1

29 August 2001



APS/Min(DP)

ARTICLE IN UFO MAGAZINE

1. As discussed earlier today, please find enclosed a copy of an article which has appeared in the September issue of *UFO Magazine* concerning a well known UFO incident at Rendlesham Forest, Suffolk, in December 1980. As you will recall, the former CDS, Lord Hill-Norton has taken a personal interest in these events and this article may prompt him to write again to Lord Bach.
2. The file referred to in the article is a compilation of papers put together over a number of years. Some of the papers are contemporary with the incident, others concern public correspondence and MOD staff efforts to summarise the chain of events since the incident was reported to have occurred. A member of the public recently requested access to these papers and they were released under the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information. Some were sanitised to protect the privacy of those who corresponded with the Department and five documents were withheld, as some contained internal briefing to Ministers and others were of a classified nature.
3. Given Lord Hill-Norton's interest in this incident and the release into the public domain of these papers, we thought it advisable to also send them to him. They were included with our draft letter from Lord Bach dated 17 May 2001. Subsequently, Georgina Bruni requested a copy of the papers that we had sent to Lord Hill-Norton and these were sent to her on 18 July.
4. I understand Ms Bruni contacted several newspapers with her story of the release of these papers. We were informed a few weeks ago that The Sunday Telegraph had written an article, but they have not yet published it. The Guardian also published a feature and today there has been an enquiry from the Eastern Morning Star, a small local paper in East Anglia. I enclose copies of the Guardian article and the press brief we have prepared following the approach from the Eastern Morning Star.
5. In view of the many PQs and PEs Lord Hill-Norton has raised on UFOs in general and Rendlesham Forest in particular, it seems likely that he will write to Lord Bach again soon. You may therefore wish to advise Lord Bach of these articles.

  
DAS(Lower Airspace)Operations & Policy 1  
MT6/73 



# US base's report of UFO crash 'had MoD in a panic'

**Richard Norton-Taylor**

A report by the deputy commander of a US nuclear base in East Anglia of an unidentified flying object provoked panic in the Ministry of Defence, newly-released documents have revealed.

In what was claimed to be Britain's first UFO landing, Lieutenant Colonel Charles Halt, commander of the US Bentwaters base near Woodbridge in Suffolk, reported that two of his security patrolmen had seen "unusual lights" early in the morning of December 27 1980.

Thinking that an aircraft had crashed, they reported seeing "a strange glowing object in the Rendlesham forest". The object was described as being "metallic in appearance and triangular in shape".

It had a "pulsing red light on top and bank of blue lights underneath".

Animals on a nearby farm were said to have gone into a "frenzy". The following day three depressions were found as well as traces of radiation, Col Halt reported.

His report was released under the US freedom of information act two years later. What has not been disclosed until now is the MoD's response to it.

British papers on the incident have been discovered by David Clarke, a researcher at Sheffield University who is writing a book on UFOs.

The Halt report was sent to the MoD with a covering letter by Squadron Leader Donald Moreland, an RAF liaison officer who **refused to "say one word who refused to be fooled."**

mysterious sightings". The ministry's scientists said they could offer "no explanation for the phenomena", or the radiation. Radar tapes from the night in question were impounded from nearby RAF bases to see if there was any evidence that British airspace had been invaded.

The papers make clear the MoD was concerned more about protecting the base from unwelcome publicity than about the alleged UFO sightings.

The ministry was worried about rumours being spread suggesting that the "alien landing" was a clever cover story for an accident involving nuclear weapons, the crash of a prototype Stealth aircraft, or even the secret recovery of part of a Soviet satellite.

It was also worried that anti-nuclear campaigners would be alerted to the presence of nuclear bombs at Bentwaters.

Yet it had something else to hide. Five documents are being withheld on the grounds that they contain confidential briefings to ministers, relate to national security, or affect Britain's relations with the US.

Dr Clarke, of Sheffield University's centre for English cultural tradition, and whose book is due to be published by Piatkus next year, has asked the MoD to release them.

He said: "Here we had USAF servicemen at a highly sensitive Nato base chasing UFOs around a forest in the middle of the night."

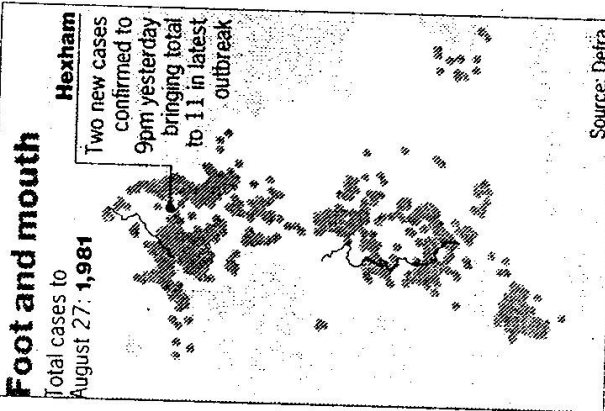
He added: "The files raise questions about how easily **our defences could be fooled.**"

Arthur Griffiths, the government's senior vet in the north-east, said that the total number of cases looked set to rise, with two "highly suspicious" incidents being checked in Allendale. But he added that Hexham market was ruled out as the source of the outbreak, after checks on records of animal movements from two of the affected farms.

With 1,000 cattle and 5,500 sheep now slaughtered in the 400sq mile "blue box" bio-security zone centred on Allendale, Mr Griffiths said: "We are still looking for the source. It's very much like a CID operation."

James Withers, spokesman for the National Farmers' Union of Scotland, said there was concern at the latest outbreaks but no reason why Scotland could not stay free of the disease. "What the North-umberland outbreaks show for people north of the border is that they cannot afford to let their guard drop."

"Scotland will remain free as long as everyone remains vigilant to the risk of possible new cases. The message has to be that there's no room for complacency. In order for us to regain export markets we have to prove to the [European] commission that there is no risk of foot and mouth coming back in the country."



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Northumberland had seen what observers believed to be the last of the recent foot and mouth cases, on May 22. The restrictions had been due to be lifted this week.

The chairman of the National Sheep Association, David Smith, whose farm is inside the Allendale blue box, said: "Everybody is aware that the infection is still out there, and yet it seems to have caught us out once again. We wonder now how far the disease has spread."

The outbreak also returned foot and mouth disease to its role as a political football, with the Conservative leadership contender Kenneth Clarke, while attending a countryside show near Nottingham, calling on John Prescott to "come out of hiding and deal with foot and mouth".

The Tory environment spokesman, Damian Green, warned: "None of the recovery programmes the government has trumpeted will mean anything if the disease continues to spread through the autumn and the winter."

Meanwhile, the reaction in Ireland to the disease's outbreak in northern England,

## Belfast drug deaths spark funding row

**Steven Morris**

The deaths of three young men who had apparently taken a cocktail of prescription drugs and alcohol provoked a row in Belfast yesterday.

Local politicians called for more money to tackle the city's drugs problem which has grown since the ceasefire.

Faonon McCoubrey, 22, and Jim O'Connor, 20, were found dead at a house in the nationalist area of Ballymurphy, west Belfast, on Sunday morning.

An hour later the body of

18, was found at his home in the Andersonstown area.

The night before they had been to a pub on the Falls Road and possibly to a club before. Friends said they thought the men were simply drunk.

Police warned others who had taken morphine and/or diazepam that had not been prescribed to seek advice.

Sue Ramsey, Sinn Fein assembly member for west Belfast, said that projects aimed at alerting youngsters to the dangers of drugs had

funding. She demanded to meet the newly-appointed drugs strategy coordinator for Northern Ireland, Jo Daykin.

Ms Ramsey said: "We're talking about the heart being ripped out of a community. The community as a whole has to be involved."

She also accused the RUC of using drug dealers as informers and allowing them to operate "with impunity".

Ms Daykin said more had to be done to tackle the problem and that young people had to

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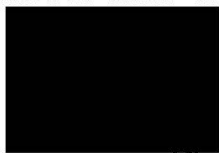
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**PRESS STATEMENT**

DATE: 30 August 2001

SUBJECT: Statement on the Rendlesham Forest File

SOURCE: DAS(LA)Ops + Pol

Desk Officer: PRESS OFFICER: Sqn Ldr 

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**BACKGROUND**

Following contact by the press, including an approach by a journalist from the Eastern Morning Star, a request was made for a statement on the contents of the file on the alleged incident in Rendelsham Forest in December 1980.

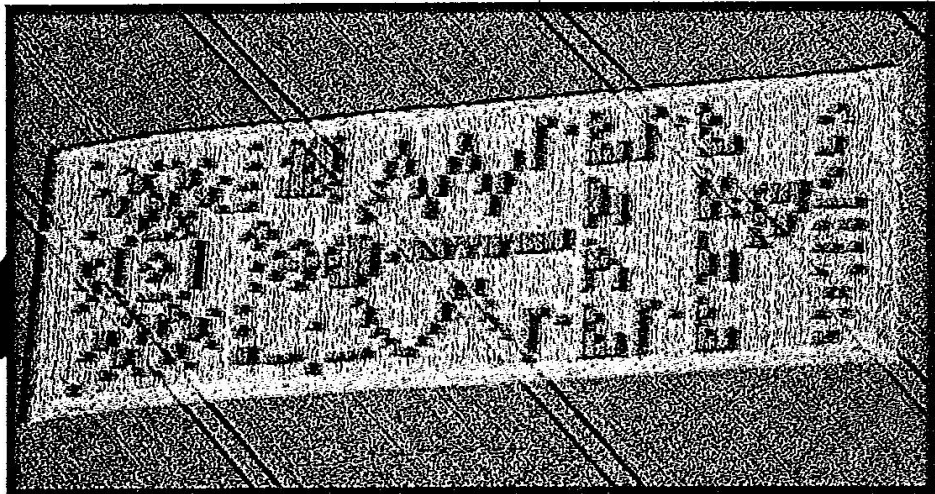
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**KEY MESSAGE**

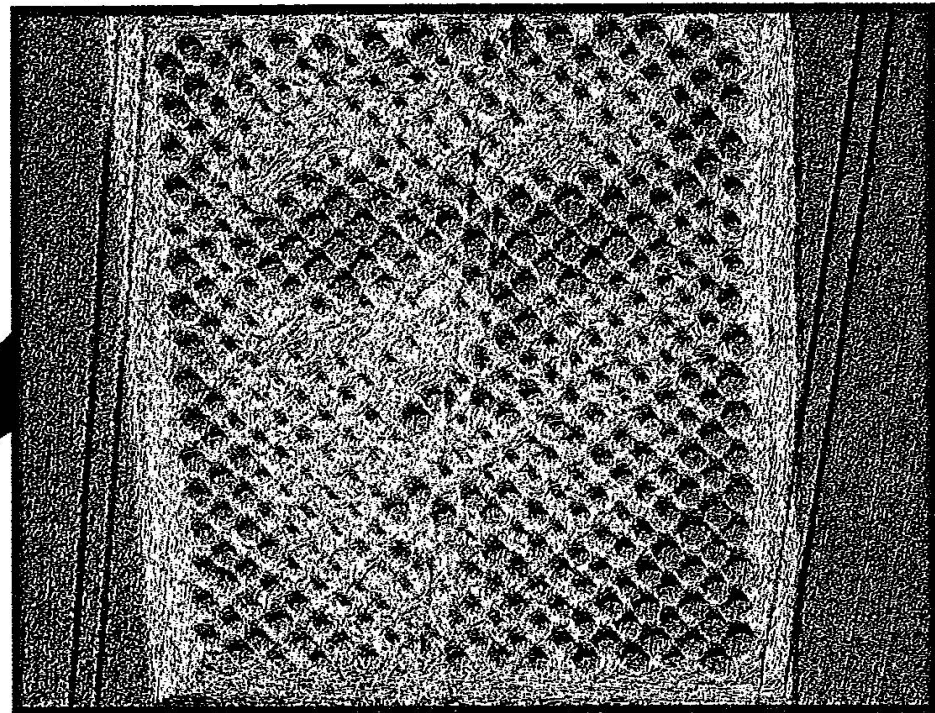
- A memorandum from the Deputy Base Commander RAF Woodbridge, dated 13 January 1981, covering events said to have occurred at Rendlesham Forest/RAF Woodbridge in December 1980, was forwarded to the Ministry of Defence two days after it was written. Records indicate that, in accordance with normal procedures, all available information was looked at by air defence experts who were satisfied that nothing had occurred to suggest that the UK Air Defence Region had been breached by unauthorised foreign military activity. In the absence of corroborating evidence, and in the light of the Department's air defence remit, no further action was deemed necessary.
- Although a number of allegations have been made since about the reported events, nothing has emerged over the intervening years which has given us reason to believe that the Department's original assessment was incorrect.
- The MOD's only interest in reports of 'unexplained' aerial sighting is to establish whether there is anything that might be of defence concern, such as unauthorised air activity in UK airspace.

# Returning your call

## Are these intricate crop patterns a reply to the radio message we beamed out into space in 1974?



Binary code: The same pattern was transmitted into space as a radio message



Three-dimensional effect: The face is made up of hundreds of individual circles

Field of dreams: An aerial view of the two patterns formed in the wheat

VIEWED from the air they are a pair of extraordinarily intricate patterns stretching across a Hampshire wheat field.

To sceptics they are just an elaborate hoax.

But crop circle believers are hailing them as a message from outer space.

The first image – when seen from above – emerges as a brooding face. Alongside is an intricate copy of a binary radio message beamed

By **James Chapman** and **James Mills**

into deep space by Nasa scientists in the 1970s in an attempt to contact alien civilisations.

Crop circle enthusiasts describe the patterns as among the most spectacular examples yet of a seasonal mystery that has been going on for more than 25 years.

Lucy Pringle, who has written books about the phenomenon, said the face was made up of hundreds of individual circles of

standing crop which combined to produce a spectacular 3D effect.

'It's really rather spooky,' she said. 'There's a humanoid face looking out from a wheat field.'

The binary message in the second formation includes digits from one to 10 and the formulae for sugar and DNA.

Mrs Pringle said it had been recognised as a pattern transmitted as a radio message in the direction of a star cluster in 1974 from the world's largest radio telescope in Puerto Rico.

It was sent in the direction of so-

called cluster M13, some 25,000 light years from Earth, as part of Nasa's Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI) project.

'We did send that message out as a means of communication with another intelligence,' said Mrs Pringle. 'And here, in a wheat field, is some sort of reply.'

She added: 'My personal belief is that there is an intelligence behind the phenomenon that is also using these glyphs as a means of communication.'

But circle investigator Andy Thomas was more sceptical. He

pointed out that the radio message would not reach the M13 star cluster for more than 20,000 years.

The formations appeared under cover of darkness six nights apart in the field alongside an observatory at Chilbolton, Hants.

Karen Douglas, another circle investigator, said: 'I find it fascinating that we beam all this information out into space and then this appears to bounce back in a field next to a giant telescope.'

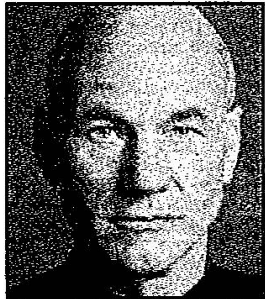
'Could this be our reply or some strange intergalactic echo?'

*j.chapman@daily mail.co.uk*

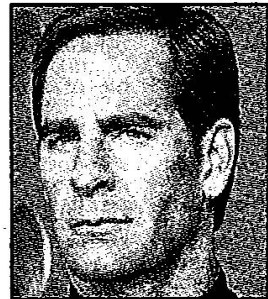
## Captain of the Enterprise, but not as we know him



Kirk: Alias Shatner



Picard: Alias Stewart



Archer: Alias Bakula

THE Starship Enterprise is about to go back to the future with a new captain at the helm.

The new series of Star Trek, called Enterprise, will be set in the 22nd Century – light years before the previous four.

Scott Bakula is to play Captain Jonathan Archer, the first Starfleet captain to explore outer space. He will be a predecessor of James T. Kirk, played by William Shatner and

By **Susie Boniface**

Jean-Luc Picard (Patrick Stewart). Bakula, best-known as time-travelling Sam Beckett in BBC2's Quantum Leap, said the new show – which will be seen in the U.S. this autumn – aimed to return to the feel of the early programmes, which were first aired in 1966.

He said it would be 'more about the relationship between the crew, the captain and his officers

as opposed to a relationship to the universe'.

He added: 'I'm fulfilling a lifelong dream to captain a starship.'

'Being an avid fan of the original Star Trek series, to get an opportunity to go before, and do all the things that they were talking about, was a big carrot.'

His character, described as an 'emotional renegade', will be exploring new star systems a hundred years before Kirk left Earth.

Guardian  
28 Aug.

# US base's report of UFO crash 'had MoD in a panic'

**Richard Norton-Taylor**

A report by the deputy commander of a US nuclear base in East Anglia of an unidentified flying object provoked panic in the Ministry of Defence, newly-released documents have revealed.

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He said: "Here we had USAF servicemen at a highly sensitive Nato base chasing UFOs around a forest in the middle of the night."

He added: "The files raise questions about how easily our defences could be fooled."

reaches herds and flocks on Scottish farms contiguous to the sparsely populated parts of northern Northumberland.

Last night it was confirmed that the number of infected farms in the Allendale valley had risen to 11.

The Scottish meat industry had been planning to apply for export applications on Thursday, when the necessary three month quarantine since the last foot and mouth case is reached. If the disease jumps the 50-odd miles north, the deadline will be delayed by at least another three months.

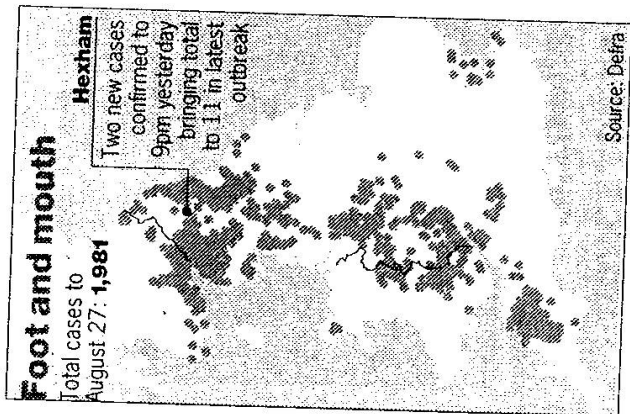
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It's very important that people slau

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**Steven Morris**

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for your info

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COVER-UP: Could it be ET?

**CLOSE ENCOUNTER: Are our intergalactic neighbours dropping in?**



**DON'T TELL ANYONE, BUT THE ALIENS HAVE LANDED**

TOP SECRET documents could prove that aliens have LANDED on Earth, it was claimed last night.

But MOD officials are still refusing to release the papers, which UFO-hunters say may show that extra-terrestrials have actually touched down.

The documents relate to the sighting, by high-ranking Royal Air Force officers, of a mysterious flying craft - "metallic in appearance and triangular in shape" - which was spotted landing in a Suffolk forest.

According to the witnesses: "The strange, glowing object had a pulsing, red light on top and a bank of blue lights underneath it" and caused local farm animals to go into a frenzy as it passed over.

**Shocked**

Lieutenant Colonel Charles Halt, Commander of the US Air Force Bentwaters base near Woodbridge, Suffolk, said that originally it was thought that an aeroplane had crash-landed, after "unusual lights" had been seen in the forest.

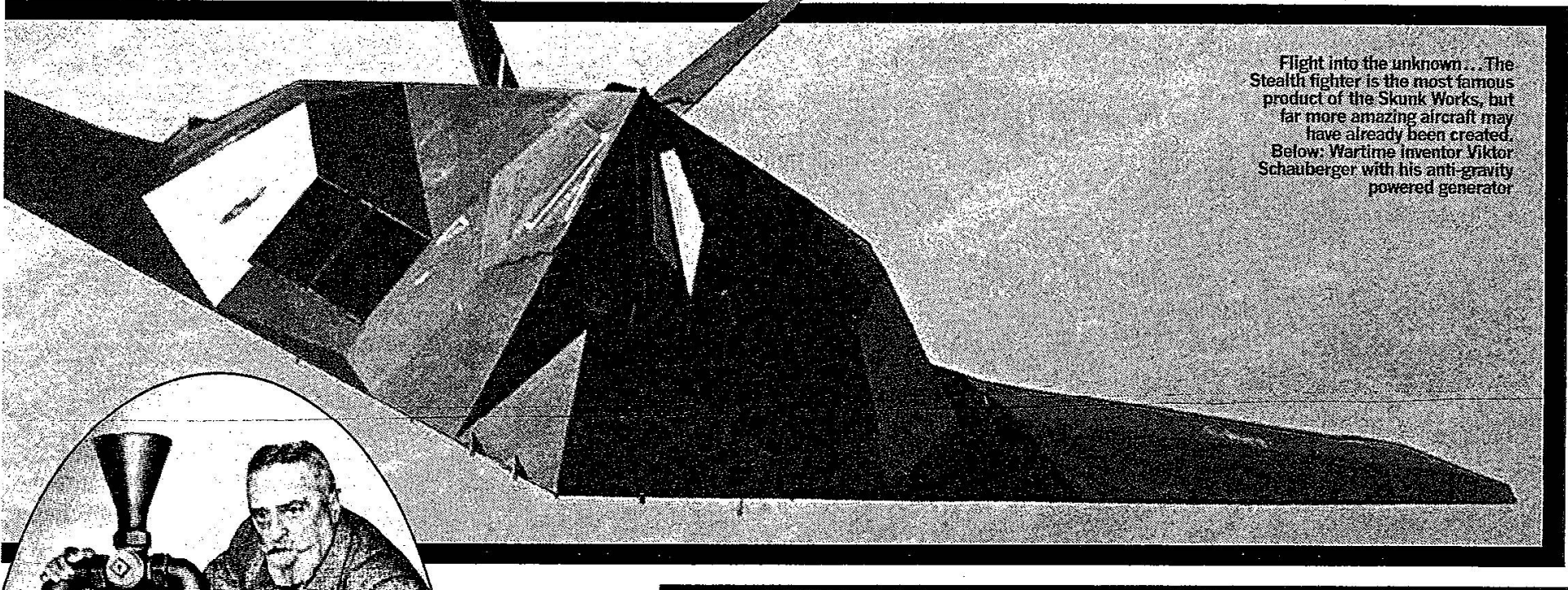
But after racing with three other servicemen to the woods, Halt saw something that looked like a "large, winking eye".

And when his men went to investigate the next day they were shocked to find three indentations in the ground and traces of radiation. An

by JOHN DORAN

DAILY STAR  
30/08/01

# the Skunk Works



Flight into the unknown... The Stealth fighter is the most famous product of the Skunk Works, but far more amazing aircraft may have already been created. Below: Wartime inventor Viktor Schauberger with his anti-gravity powered generator



sucked rather than pushed its way through the atmosphere.

Had Schauberger created an 'anti-gravity' device? And had the Americans got wind of it? The conquering Americans held Schauberger under house arrest and debriefed him thoroughly.

Now the Americans, in 1946, had the rudiments of an entirely new propulsion medium: one which 18 months later would have Nathan Twining, a US Air Force general in charge of technology secrets, saying that the US had the knowledge and the ability to construct a piloted aircraft with the operating characteristics of a UFO within the foreseeable future. A craft that seemingly defied the laws of physics.

But what happened to this knowledge? Why, nowadays, do we not travel in aircraft capable of phenomenal speeds and no longer dependent on jet engines? American scientists were predicting a golden age of anti-gravity for the Sixties. A fuelless propulsion source was on the horizon. But it didn't happen. Why?

For the most simple and deadliest of reasons: the fear that anti-gravity could not only be used to revolutionise the world of aerospace, but could also become a destructive force so powerful that it had the potential to destroy the world. Their discoveries struck terror into the hearts of the keepers of the secrets of anti-gravity.

They realised that if you fiddled with the building blocks of nature in a way that they could not fully understand, then you might set off a chain reaction like a nuclear explosion, but hundreds of times more severe. And worse, if America could do it, then so could any rogue state.

It simply wasn't a risk worth taking. No wonder that someone, somewhere, took the view that anti-gravity should be kept a secret for a very long time.

● Extract from *The Hunt For Zero Point: One Man's Journey To Discover The Biggest Secret Since The Invention Of The Atom Bomb*, by Nick Cook, to be published by Century on September 16 at £17.99. To order a copy for £16.99 (free p&p), telephone 01206 255800.

and told me more about what had happened in those fateful days when Germany was collapsing.

One of the five machines Schauberger was engineering was dubbed the 'flying saucer'. And it was this which the Americans seized upon when the war ended. They seemed to know what they were looking for - a radical form of aeroengine which

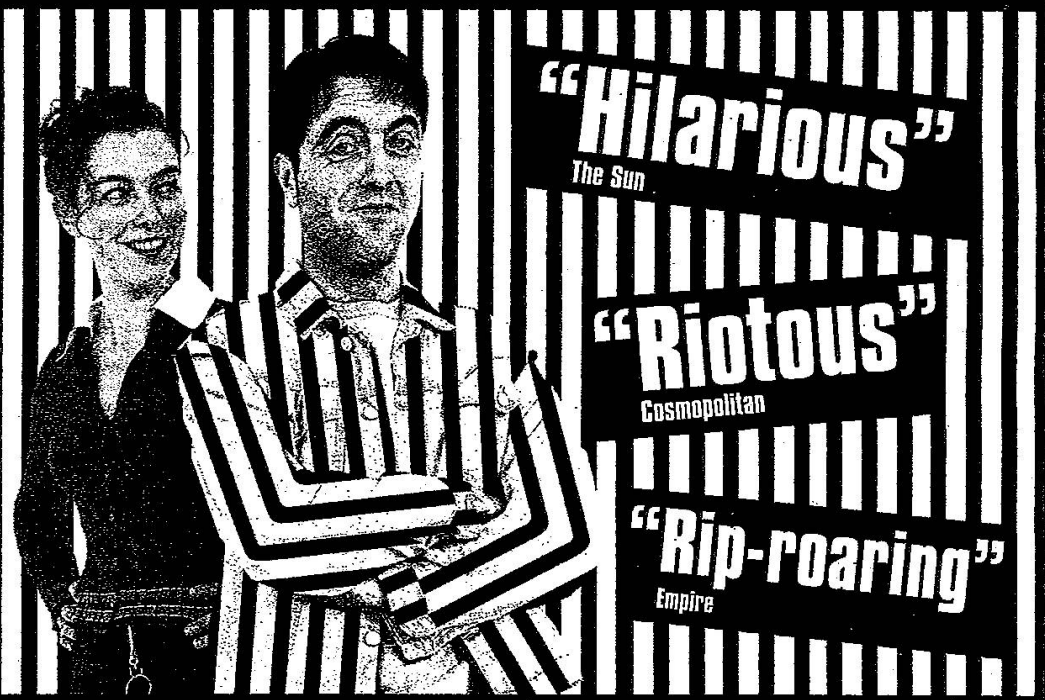
## are round

circular shape would be ideal for moving in any direction at the flick of a switch. Nazi researchers are said to have believed the round shape was ideal for carrying a jet engine to generate the electricity needed to charge the flying saucer.

The danger in creating anti-gravity is that any method used has to tap into the infinite power of sub-atomic particles. This power could be deliberately or accidentally released in an uncontrollable sub-atomic reaction that could create an explosion big enough to destroy half of Europe. This may only be a theory - but so was the atomic bomb just a few years before one was dropped on Hiroshima in 1945.

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# The dark secret of

One of the world's foremost aviation and aerospace scientists once told me about a place - a 'virtual warehouse' - where ideas that were too dangerous to develop into hardware were locked away for ever, like the Ark of the Covenant in the Harrison Ford film *Raiders Of The Lost Ark*.

At the time, I dismissed it as one of the more fanciful chapters from the wilder shores of science fiction. Not any more.

I am now convinced, after ten years of research, that one of these discoveries, locked away for half a century, is the biggest secret since the invention of the atomic bomb. A source of energy so great that it offers the world a limitless supply of power: anti-gravity. So great that, in the wrong hands, it could destroy the world.

Occasionally, the hardware emerges from the layers of security designed to keep these secrets from public scrutiny. Take, for example, the strange craft spotted from the mid-Eighties onwards in a triangle bordered by New Mexico to the south, California to the west and Nevada to the north-east.

Nearby, on the edge of the desert, is

By Nick Cook

AEROSPACE CONSULTANT FOR  
JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY

Palmdale, home of the Skunk Works, a legendary aircraft-manufacturing facility. So-called because, in the Forties, foul-smelling chemicals emanated from its secret facilities on the edge of the main Lockheed aircraft plant. Other factory workers, not knowing what was going on there, joked that it was being used to make moonshine, or

## Did they make a plane that flies at 5,300mph?

'skunk juice' as it was referred to in the Lil Abner cartoon strip of the day. Skunk Works employees work on top-secret projects and are highly skilled engineers. They are recruited from the works' parent company, Lockheed, which today builds everything from Stealth fighters to space launchers and satellites. Could a team from its 4,000

employees have had something to do with the 'airquakes' reported by the US Geological Survey as having been caused by an unknown craft as it flew over California?

If anti-gravity was real, where better to look for it than in the Skunk Works, ostensibly hugely profitable and crammed with workers, but with little to show the public for its efforts. What technologies were being pursued there?

The Skunk Works was founded in 1943 in response to an urgent US requirement for a jet fighter to counter the threat of the Messerschmitt 262, a revolutionary twin-jet fighter-bomber being developed by the German Luftwaffe. The result, the XP-80, built in great secrecy, under budget and on time in just 143 days, became an aviation classic.

It set the standard for everything that followed. Ten years later, when the CIA demanded a spyplane to overfly the Soviet Union, the Skunk Works delivered the answer - the graceful Mach 3 A-12 Blackbird. It developed into the fastest operational aircraft in the world until its retirement in 1990.

But what else had been happening at the Skunk Works? Because of its track record in developing top-secret aircraft projects such as the U-2 spyplane and the F-117A Stealth fighter, it was my belief that this was the logical place to look for anti-gravity development in the United States.

My request for an interview with Jack Gordon, the head of the Skunk Works, was eventually granted. It took place in his office at the heart of his empire - a hangar which dominated the desert for miles. In his 23 years with the company, he said, he had worked on 15 'real flying aircraft' - but significantly, he could only talk about 12 of them.

I asked how many of the remaining three had anything to do with anti-gravity?

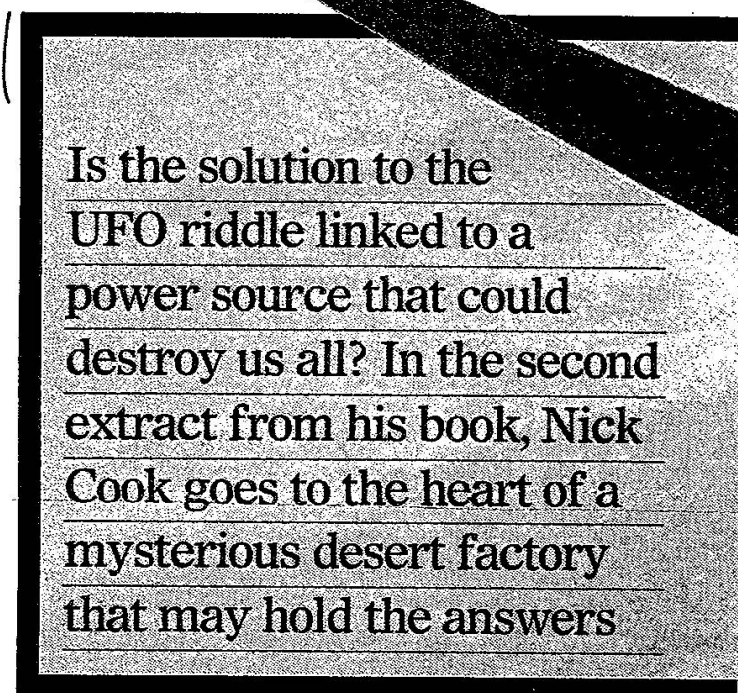
Gordon was admitting nothing, but there was informed speculation within the industry that one was Aurora, the 'fast mover' people said they had seen as a pulsating light flying over the south-western United States. Aurora was also linked to a dark, triangular shape that had been spotted over the North Sea by trained observers in 1989.

Since the late Eighties, there had been talk of a secret replacement for the revolutionary Blackbird: a mythical plane that supposedly flew twice as fast and on the edges of space. The prognosis was that it was a massive leap forward in aerospace terms, powered by a new form of engine that gave it a cruising speed of anything up to Mach 8 - that is 5,300mph.

There were also rumours that the Reagan administration had embarked on a massive programme of aerospace and defence research. If you know how to interpret the Pentagon's annual defence budget, and calculate the difference between unclassified expenditure for the three armed services and the grand total, you can work out what is allocated to the so-called 'black budget'.

In 1988, the sum was worked out to be \$30 billion for research, development and secret weapons programmes - more than Britain's entire defence budget. If Aurora existed - or research into anti-gravity was taking place - this is where the funding came from.

A lot of the expertise on anti-gravity dated from decades earlier, and Nazi Germany in particular. Much of what formed the basis of the Skunk Works' projects came from the German



Is the solution to the UFO riddle linked to a power source that could destroy us all? In the second extract from his book, Nick Cook goes to the heart of a mysterious desert factory that may hold the answers

technology and expertise plundered by the Allies at the end of the Second World War. Germany was a treasure trove of desirable technology, covering everything from weaponry and electronics to textiles and medicine.

It was a magnet for the Allies, including the British. Ian Fleming, who was later to write the James Bond novels, set up what was virtually a private army tasked with 'tech-plunder'. But the British were ill-prepared to take advantage of the opportunities which faced them.

Not so the Americans. They simply removed the paperwork for hundreds of thousands of patents and shipped them home. According to the US Office of

the revolutionary anti-gravity experiments of Viktor Schaubberger, an Austrian inventor enlisted by the Nazis at gunpoint. He actually produced an anti-gravity machine which flew - and I tracked down his grandson, Jeorg, who has devoted much of his life to researching his grandfather's work.

Viktor Schaubberger, said Jeorg, was a forester and engineer who had been working on an energy device. As the war drew to a close, the Nazis chanced upon his secrets and ordered him to devote himself to the German war effort, on pain of death.

What appealed to them was a machine of his that had a dual purpose - it could be both an energy generator and a power plant for an aerospace vehicle of saucer-like appearance.

One of Schaubberger's colleagues later said that the first time they tried to run the machine - which had a diameter of 5ft and weighed 300lb - 'the flying saucer rose unexpectedly to the ceiling and then was wrecked. It rose upwards, trailing a blue-green and then silver-coloured glow.'

It was a process Schaubberger called 'implosion' - at its simplest, a three-dimensional energy pattern channelled inwards, not outwards - which generated phenomenal force levels. His grandson Jeorg showed me the rusting remains of the machine

## They stole all the Nazis' discoveries

Technical Services - the body set up to ensure that German technology was moved rapidly into American industry - the documents contained a wealth of material which 'very likely contained practically all the scientific, industrial and military secrets of Nazi Germany'.

I became convinced that hidden away among the tens of thousands of tons of paperwork were

## Why flying saucers

The idea of anti-gravity is the holy grail of aviation. It is based on quantum physicists' belief that gravity is actually created by little-known forces working at a sub-atomic level all around us. The theory is that if these minute forces can be manipulated, anti-gravity could be created to make an object 'lose' its weight.

One idea for how this could be done is 'electrogravitics'. At its most simple level, the theory is based on magnetism: if a metal plate is given a positive electric charge on one side and a negative charge on the other,

goes the theory, it will 'exhibit thrust' towards the positive pole. If it is horizontal, the plate will lose weight because it will rise as the negative underside pushes up towards the positive top side.

But, say believers, it's more than just pushing up and down: charging different parts of the plate will make it move in any direction. Because the power of gravity is so great, using it in this way would mean the object could move at incredible speeds.

If this idea works, there is one shape of aircraft ideal for using the electrogravitics force: a flying saucer. The rounded top and bottom would make the most of the lifting force while the

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# Review

## Did this Nazi killer teach America how to build UFOs?

For ten years a leading writer on Britain's most authoritative military journal has conducted an extraordinary investigation into aviation's greatest mystery: anti-gravity. Now he reveals why he believes he has uncovered an incredible secret – the truth about flying saucers

By Nick Cook

AVIATION EDITOR OF JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY

**D**eputy Sheriff Amelia Lopez led me into the distant scrub of the Sierra Nevada mountains, scratched the soil and said: 'They sieved the dirt for a thousand yards from the impact point. A few weeks after they left, it was like nothing ever happened.'

Whatever happened – or not – took place back in July 1986. Lopez, after partying until dawn on a camping trip with friends, was settling into her sleeping bag when the crash occurred just a dozen miles from Bakersfield, California. A supersonic jet roared overhead with a sonic boom like a clap of thunder. Then the horizon was flashlit by an enormous explosion, flames shooting skywards as the jet ploughed into a desert canyon nearby.

Lopez and her friends, like others

in the area, were determined to find out what had happened. They had not gone more than half-a-dozen miles towards the point of impact before her face was forced into the dirt, a boot was in her back and a gun was at her head. These were not ordinary soldiers, but SWAT-types brandishing Colt Commandos, wearing night-vision goggles and issuing threats about government property and national security.

It was not until 1988 that the outgoing Reagan administration admitted the plane, strictly classified even

though it had been in service for three years, was an F-117A Stealth fighter. The troops at the crash site were part of a Pentagon 'red team' helicoptered in to secure the area – and to keep the secret of the Stealth's highly classified technology.

It was a measure of the lengths the US military goes to guard its secrets. But I was to discover there is an even greater secret which is no less than the aerospace equivalent of the Holy Grail – anti-gravity. In other words,

Continued on Page 44



Cruel genius... SS General Hans Kammler is believed to have struck a deal with the Americans after the war

122



# He vanished along

From Page 43

the action of levitation where gravity's force is more than overcome by electrostatic or other propulsion.

For some time I had regarded an anti-gravity system as the ultimate quantum leap in aircraft design. Something dreamed about, but beyond reach and likely to remain so.

It was the stuff of science fiction. Or so I thought until my investigations, undertaken over the last ten years, led me to change my mind. I am now convinced it is one of the last century's most breath-

taking - and most closely guarded - discoveries.

Anti-gravity is a discovery born of the Nazis' desire to conquer the world. And it could also explain the thousands of sightings of UFOs that have occurred since the Second World War. In the light of anti-gravity, the notion of X-Files-type flying saucers does not seem so strange.

The draconian measures applied at the Californian crash site were among the final pieces in a jigsaw I had been putting together ever since photocopied pages of an old popular science journal had been placed

anonymously on my desk at Jane's Defence Weekly, the British magazine which documents the day-to-day dealings of the multi-billion-dollar global defence industry.

I have worked there for 14 years as an aviation editor and aerospace consultant, covering everything from Chinese combat engines to radar systems. But this was way off my usual beat. The cutting, about revolutionary US military research, was dated 1956. The headline ran: 'The G-Engines Are Coming!' It contained a drawing of a US airman stepping out of an aircraft that had no wings and no visible

means of propulsion. The article proclaimed: 'By far the most potent source of energy is gravity. Using it as power, future aircraft will attain the speed of light. Scientists, designers and engineers are perfecting a way to control gravity - a force infinitely more powerful than the mighty atom. The result of their labours will be anti-gravity engines working without fuel - weightless airliners and space ships able to travel to 170,000 miles per second.'

On any other day, this article would have been consigned to the bin as sheer fantasy. But something in the next paragraph caught my eye.

This gravity research, it said, had been supported by Glenn L. Martin Aircraft Company, Bell Aircraft, Lear and 'several other American aircraft manufacturers who would not spend millions of dollars on science fiction'.

It quoted Lawrence D. Bell, founder of the plane company that was the first to break the sound barrier: 'We're already working on nuclear fuels and equipment to cancel out gravity.' George S. Trimble, head of Advanced Programs at Martin Aircraft, added: 'The conquest of gravity could be done in about the time it took to build the first atomic bomb.'

They were openly predicting a golden age of anti-gravity in the Sixties. They set out the notion of a fuelless propulsion source, one that could deliver phenomenal performance gains over a jet - perhaps including the ability to accelerate rapidly, to pull hairpin turns without crushing the pilot and to achieve speeds that defied imagination. In short, something that resembled a UFO.

I began to research the subject of anti-gravity - and discovered that the seeds of the technology were sown by German scientists in the dying days of the Second World War - and appropriated by the conquering Americans under the noses of their allies.

The key man was a German engineer and administrator, Hans Kammler, who began as a civil servant with the Reich Air Ministry but whose ambition led him to the SS, where he became head of the Building and Works divisions that masterminded the concentration camps.

Albert Speer, Hitler's Minister for Armaments, noted that Kammler was 'blond, blue-eyed, long-headed, always neatly dressed and well bred ... capable of unexpected decisions at any minute.' It was the SS, not the Luftwaffe, that controlled Hitler's secret weapons programme - and Kammler, a qualified engineer, soon became deeply involved.

He was clever and cruel - 20,000 slave workers died creating the vast galleried complex hacked out under the Harz Mountains in Germany, where Kammler oversaw production of V1 rockets. One day in March 1945, the guards hanged 52 people in Gallery 41, tying a dozen at a time to a beam which was then pulled up by a crane. Those next in line were forced to watch. These were Kammler's hallmarks.

Kammler rose to the rank of SS General, in charge not only of all aircraft and missile programmes but also his own high-powered research and development think-tank. He set up his secret operation in the vast Skoda industrial complex in Czecho-

slovakia, a country which regarded as its own private do-

According to my researches, there were working on weapons systems so futuristic that they looked like V1 and V2 rockets. Among these were nuclear power plants for rocket aircraft, highly sophisticated weapons and anti-aircraft laser.

But there was more. A Polish told me the extraordinary story of 'The Bell'. Experiments had been taking place in a mine close to the border. They involved feeding doses of electricity into an

**What a**  
**W** hat is a gravity - a field which does it? Gravity is a field which can be compared to magnetism, a power which attracts a metallic object to a magnet. Einstein believed that precisely what causes it is still a mystery. Einstein believed that when an object sits in space its mass distorts the space around it and this distortion causes gravity. B

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# with his secrets...



Alien nation... The US has led the world in aerospace technology, thanks to its Stealth fighter, left. Inset: A 'victim' of the Roswell 'UFO' crash in 1947. Above: The Avro project was bought by the US

ground chamber where a bell-shaped device emitted a pale blue light. Five scientists exposed to the device had died of side-effects. Word had it that they were investigating some kind of anti-gravitational effect. The Bell,

## Experiments took place below ground

which was about the height of a man and glowed during testing, was made of hard, heavy metal, filled with a violet mercury-like substance. This metallic liquid was stored in a flask,

encased in lead three centimetres thick.

Experiments always took place under a thick ceramic cover and involved the rapid spinning of two cylinders in opposite directions. The chamber in which the experiments took place was deep below ground. Only The Bell itself was preserved after a series of tests, each lasting about one minute. Even the room was destroyed and rebuilt.

Various plants, and animals such as frogs, mice and rats, were exposed to The Bell's sphere of influence. Rapid decay set in and people who helped conduct the experiments suffered from sleep problems, memory loss and muscle spasms. One of the

terms used was 'vortex compression'. Another was 'magnetic fields separation'. Both were associated with anti-gravity.

These secrets were undoubtedly Kammler's ticket to safety once war had ended. By mid-April of 1945 Kammler had dropped off the map. He was a leading Nazi, implicated in the Final Solution - yet protracted searches in the US National Archives yielded not a single mention.

How could this monster, the most powerful individual outside Hitler's inner circle, be so easily forgotten?

It was only as I gazed at the single wartime picture that exists of Kammler - in his general's uniform, striding for the camera, his cap with

death's head badge enough to one side to betray more than a hint of vanity - that I began to understand. Kammler was fair. Take away the uniform, and he could have been any 40-year-old European male. In the chaos of the collapsing Reich, Kammler could have gone any-

## Five scientists died of side-effects

where, assumed any persona and no one would have noticed.

Kammler, who had moved his HQ to Munich, told Albert Speer he would offer the Americans 'jet planes and rockets'. He also let slip he had 'other developments' up his sleeve.

He probably went east, back to his 'special projects group' in Czechoslovakia, rather than simply wait for the Americans to arrive in Munich. He had a two-fold purpose in making his dangerous journey. First, to retrieve the mother lode of documentation and blueprints. And second, to hide it prior to setting up the deal which would buy his freedom.

Although the Skoda Works were in the Soviet zone of occupation, my research shows that US forces had the run of the place for six days before the Red Army turned up.

Plenty of time to remove something you want if you know it is there. Or

ignore it, if you have it already. The Americans appeared indifferent to any pointers towards Kammler. Had he already done a deal with the Americans? The answer must be yes.

The Bell was removed by a special SS evacuation team just before the Russians arrived. More than 60 scientists working on the experiment were then ruthlessly killed to preserve the secrets of the mine. The Bell was shipped out - but to where?

One possibility was using one of the northern Adriatic ports that remained in German hands. A U-boat commander could conceivably have run the gauntlet of the Allies to evacuate cargo and personnel by sea. Another possibility was a heavy transport plane used by a special German air force wing and flown under an enemy or neutral flag. Either way, Kammler had the means to move thousands of tons of documentation, equipment and personnel pretty much where he wanted.

At the end of the Second World War, via captured technology from Germany that has never seen the light of day, America acquired knowledge of the most dangerous kind.

Whatever the secrets of The Bell and other technology, the German secret weapons programme had yielded the ability to design a radically different form of aircraft. A craft that was 'circular or elliptical', made no sound and could turn on a sixpence. And one involving a process which could also be harnessed to create a weapon more destructive than the hydrogen bomb.

With the help of German-derived science, America's technological lead over the rest of the world accelerated after the war. Kammler's secrets from the Skoda Works had moved 4,000 miles to the west and somehow, I just knew, Kammler had come with it. The extensive US recruitment programme would have bent over backwards to accommodate Kammler, keeper of the Third Reich's most exotic military secrets. There is evidence that the Americans did pro-

## gravity is - and what it does

theory gaining more credence is that gravity is caused by little-known forces within atoms - just as magnetism is caused by forces within a magnet's atomic structure.

Master science fiction writer H.G. Wells came up with an idea 100 years ago for a spacecraft to use a substance called Cavorite which shielded the forces of gravity, allowing craft and their occupants to escape Earth's pull and fly to the Moon. Since then, scientists have

dreamed of building such a machine. In Moscow last week, scientist Evgeny Podkletnov said he had perfected a machine to push objects away from the pull of Earth's gravity, using superconducting magnets. He has called this anti-gravity effect a 'gravity shield' - rather like Wells's Cavorite.

Then there are rapidly spinning gyroscopes. Scots inventor Sandy Kidd was inspired by an experience he had walking down a Vulcan

bomber's steps when he was an RAF technician in the Eighties carrying a still-spinning heavy gyroscope he had just removed. When he stepped on the ground he was flattened by a blow to his back... transmitted from the gyroscope.

After three years, he built an anti-gravity machine with two gyroscopes at each end of a flexible arm. When he switched it on he was amazed to see it levitate and settle three inches above the workbench.

Continued on Page 46

# It proved flying saucers exist

From Page 45

duce such technology. A memo I found in the archives of the Imperial War Museum, written by Lieutenant General Nathan Twining, head of US Army Air Forces' Air Material Command, a brigadier in USAAF intelligence in September 1947, stated that objects 'approximating the shape of a disc, of such appreciable size as to be as large as a manmade aircraft' were neither 'visionary nor fictitious'.

Twining went on to write that it was possible 'within the present US knowledge - provided extensive detailed development is undertaken - to construct a piloted aircraft which has the general description of the object above which would be

capable of an approximate range of 7,000 miles... His memo was written just three months after the supposed crash of a UFO at Roswell, New Mexico, in July 1947; the period many people tout as the real start of the modern UFO sightings.

Not all attempts to produce disc technology were successful. It emerged, during the 1959 hearings of the Space Committee of the US Congress, that the US Department of Defense had been working with the Avro Canada company to develop a 'flying saucer'.

The Avrocar, as it was called, was the brainchild of gifted British engineer John Frost, who had moved to Canada after the war. News leaked as early as 1953, when a Canadian newspaper revealed plans

for it to take off and land vertically, and fly at 1,500mph.

It was easy to see why Avro played down reports of the Avrocar. One look at the prototype, underpowered and unstable, was enough to confirm it would never achieve supersonic flight. It became an aviation joke

## Silent craft were spotted over Belgium

which drifted into obscurity. Yet, that may have been the intention.

Recently declassified papers show that Avro was working on a range of flying saucers capable of eclipsing

existing jet-fighters. And the US air force had bought Avro's disc-shaped designs for craft called Project Silverbug, capable of almost instant high-speed turns in any direction.

Were the Americans using the Canadians to perfect the aerodynamics of a flying saucer? Or had the disastrous Avro programme been hushed up to avoid embarrassment? Either way, it showed that man-made flying saucers existed.

There was no golden age, as 'The G-Engines Are Coming!' had predicted. At least, not in the open. But I discovered evidence of mysterious aircraft which chimed with reduced gravity systems.

Since the Eighties, there has been speculation about the existence of a mythical plane called Aurora that supposedly flew on the edges of space. In 1992, there was a detailed sighting of a massive triangular-shaped aircraft spotted flying in formation with US air force bombers above the North Sea.

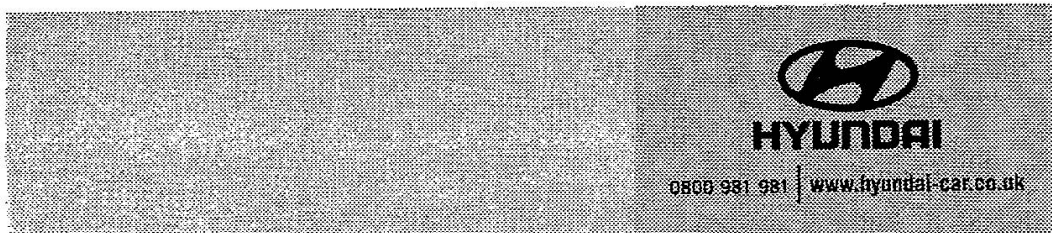
In Belgium, in 1989 and again a year later, hundreds of people reported seeing silent triangular-

shaped craft all over the country. They were tracked by Belgian radar and pulled turns of about 20G-40G - enough to kill a human pilot. The Belgian air force confirmed their existence in a government report.

I also discovered evidence of the Pentagon's enormous 'black budgets' which finance deeply classified defence programmes.

Huge amounts of money have been spent, often in areas of the US where UFO reports are most common. What happened to Kammler's secrets, and was anti-gravity among them? My research would soon take me to the deserts of America, home of the strange Stealth fighters, the leading edge of aeronautical science - and much more.

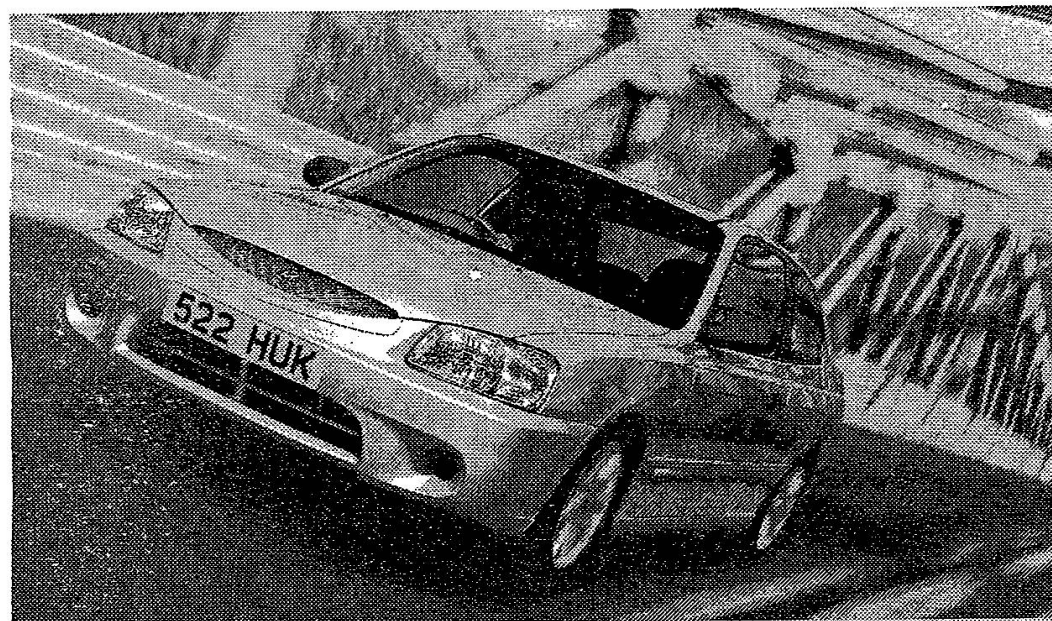
● Extract from *The Hunt For Zero Point: One Man's Journey To Discover The Biggest Secret Since The Invention Of The Atom Bomb* by Nick Cook, to be published by Century on September 6 at £17.99. © Nick Cook 2001. To order a copy for £16.99 (free p&p), telephone 01206 255800.



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## Fungal nail infection?

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06/05/01

# Don't tell the CIA but generals have proof ET exists and wants to make contact

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**A** UNIQUE event will take place in Washington DC next Wednesday. More than 20 witnesses from respected professions are joining forces to reveal to the world's media what they claim to be the deception of elected governments by unaccountable but powerful self-interest groups.

In any other field, such as pollution scares or political scandals, these witnesses - senior military officers from the US, UK and Russia, decorated pilots and astronauts, reputable scientists, and even a Cardinal from the Vatican



By <sup>44</sup>  
Beverley  
Glick

- would be taken seriously. People would be clamouring for an open inquiry.

But the subject of this press conference will stretch the imagination of many. The witnesses will claim that not only does life exist beyond this planet, but that there has been contact between us and them. They will allege that this knowledge has been suppressed even though the advanced technologies could benefit mankind.

And they will claim that agencies - operating outside the constitutional chain of command in the US, UK and other countries - have been frustrating the inquiries of elected heads-of-state, leaders of the armed forces and the United Nations. It sounds like a case from The X-Files.

That these claims are taken seriously and properly investigated is the hope of Dr Steven Greer, director of the Disclosure Project, who is hosting the event. Dr Greer is the international director of the Centre for the Study of Extraterrestrial Intelligence (CSETI), a non-profit scientific research organisation that was set up in 1990 to "establish peaceful and sustainable relations with extraterrestrial life forms".

Several years ago, the Disclosure Project invited experts from "military, government or government contractor personnel" who were witnesses to UFO events and projects to make statements about what they know. Around 400 came forward and more than 100 have had their testimonies videotaped by Dr Greer, who says they will establish once and for all that we are not alone.

**O**NE key witness attending the event is a former Division Chief of the Accidents and Investigations Branch of the US Federal Aviation Authority. In his testimony John Callahan tells about a 1986 Japanese Airlines 747 flight that was followed by a UFO for 31 minutes over the Alaskan skies. The UFO also trailed a United Airlines flight until the flight landed. There was visual confirmation as well as air-based and ground-based radar confirmation.

This event was significant enough for the then FAA Administrator, Admiral Engen, to

hold a briefing the next day attended by the FBI, CIA, and President Reagan's Scientific Study Team. Videotape radar evidence, air traffic voice communications and paper reports were compiled and presented.

At the end of the meeting, a CIA member instructed everyone present that "the meeting never took place" and that "this incident was never recorded".

"At the time I said, 'Well I don't know why you are saying this,'" remembers Callahan. "There was something there and if it's not a stealth bomber, then you know it's a UFO. And if it's a UFO, why wouldn't you want the people to know?" They got all excited over that - 'You don't even want to say those words'. He said this is the first time they ever had 30 minutes of radar data on a UFO. He said if they came out and told the American public that they ran into a UFO out there, it would cause panic across the country.

But as far as I'm concerned, I saw a UFO chase a Japanese 747 across the sky for over half an hour on radar. And it's faster than anything that I know of in our government."

Project director Dr Greer claims that "technologies related to extraterrestrial phenomena are capable of providing solutions to the global energy crisis". His aim is to persuade the US Congress to hold open hearings at which a further group of "deep cover" witnesses could testify with official government protection. During

his investigations, Dr Greer and his team have briefed the Clinton administration, including former CIA director James Woolsey, senior military officials at the Pentagon, and selected members of Congress.

Whether any of these sensational claims are true or whether it's a conspiracy theorist's version of the Hitler Diaries remains to be seen. The provenance of the witnesses will certainly be verifiable.

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