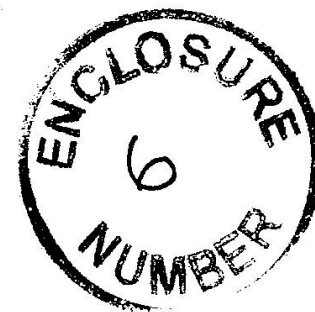




UNCLASSIFIED  
RESTRICTED

LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)/64/5

30 Apr 98

APS/USofs  
(thro [REDACTED])

Copy to:

DPO(RAF)

ADGE1

AD OR(ICS)1

PSO/ACAS

**UFO ARTICLES - DAILY MAIL AND DAILY EXPRESS - 27 APRIL 1998****ISSUE**

1. To provide advice following the Daily Mail and Daily Express articles of 27 April alleging a 'UFO' sighting over the North Sea.

**RECOMMENDATION**

2. To note.

**BACKGROUND**

3. On Sunday 26 April the MOD Press Office received calls from the Daily Mail and Daily Express about an alleged 'UFO' sighting over the North Sea involving an object 'the size of a battleship' travelling at around '17,000 mph' (the published articles subsequently alleged 24,000 mph). No additional information about the date of this alleged incident was provided at the time or has been since. A further 20 phonecalls from the print and broadcast media have now been received.

**Source of the Story**

4. The Daily Mail has said that [REDACTED] was the source of the story. [REDACTED], is believed to have left the paper under a cloud and has, we understand, been contributing material to the national Press on a freelance basis since that time. [REDACTED] is known to be rather inventive of the facts.

**RAF Fylingdales, Yorkshire**

5. The Fylingdales radar is tasked only to detect and track objects in orbit and those with a ballistic trajectory. The Officer Commanding at RAF Fylingdales has confirmed that for the

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RESTRICTED

**UNCLASSIFIED**  
**RESTRICTED**

35 years it has operated, no 'UFOs' have been tracked. It is the case that the radar is not configured to track such objects, particularly in the reported areas, and there is therefore no substance to the claim that recorded data of this nature is held at RAF Fylingdales.

6. OC Fylingdales also confirmed that the station has not been approached to provide supporting information for the Space Symposium at RAF Cranwell in June. The RAF Fylingdales Crew Commander received a call from a journalist on Sunday but was asked only about RAF Fylingdales' involvement with the Symposium. The Crew Commander denied all knowledge of any involvement and referred the journalist to the MOD Press desk.

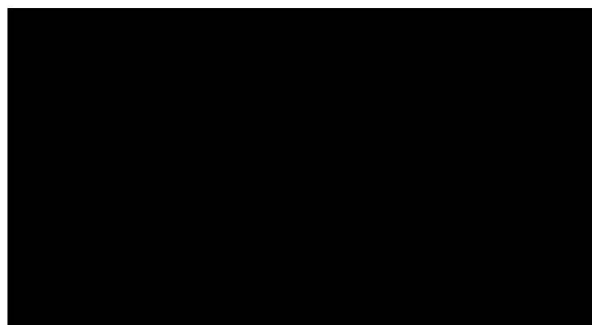
Symposium at RAF Cranwell

7. The Air Warfare Centre and the MOD branch Operational Requirements (Information & Communication Services) are jointly hosting a '*Military Exploitation of Space*' Symposium on 3-4 June at RAF Cranwell. It is open to Service and MOD civilian personnel and industrialists with an interest in this subject and is mentioned on the Internet.

8. The newspaper articles allege plans for one of the speakers at the Symposium to present radar tapes from RAF Fylingdales to substantiate the 'UFO' claims. Neither the Air Warfare Centre's focal point for this event, nor OR(ICS) staff, have knowledge of any material of this nature on the agenda and have confirmed that the Symposium has nothing whatsoever to do with 'UFOs'. A copy of a brochure about the Symposium is attached for information.

Conclusion

9. All enquiries indicate that there is nothing of substance in the claims made by the media.



Sec(AS)2a1  
MB8245 [redacted] 0  
CHOTS: SEC(AS)2A1

**UNCLASSIFIED**  
**RESTRICTED**

28 APR '97 09:03 P.03/03

tion 40

TO

28 APR '97 13:27 FROM D E F PRESS OFFICE

tion 40

PAGE 02

Administration Office,  
OD & T  
RAFC Cranwell,  
Sleaford,  
Lines,  
NG34 8HB

**ROYAL AIR FORCE  
AIR WARFARE CENTRE  
OPERATIONAL DOCTRINE & TRAINING  
RAF COLLEGE CRANWELL  
UNITED KINGDOM  
NG34 8HB**

**COMMERCIAL**  
WITHIN UK 01400-261201 EXT 6474  
OUTSIDE UK 44-1400-261201 EXT 6474  
Internet Mail Address: [ASCM@OD-T.demon.co.uk](mailto:ASCM@OD-T.demon.co.uk)  
[www/raf/mod.uk/awc/asd](http://www/raf/mod.uk/awc/asd)

**1998 Aries Symposium  
Military Exploitation of Space**

A 2-day operational and technical symposium on the military exploitation of space, sponsored by the Air Force Board, will be held at RAFC Cranwell, UK, on Thur 4 - Fri 5 June. The aim of the symposium is to raise the profile of Space within the defence community, both military and industrial at 3 'levels': very senior officers, who are already well aware of MOD space policy but probably less aware of future technological trends; middle-ranking MOD personnel, whose professional knowledge would benefit significantly from greater exposure to the potential benefits of space exploitation; and industry, who wish to be informed about MOD interest in space as an operational environment and are keen to gain an opportunity to demonstrate the capabilities and concepts they may offer in support of space objectives. All the briefings at the symposium will be presented at an unclassified level; however, arrangements can be made for participants to discuss technology issues at a classified level. The symposium is being run jointly by the Air Warfare Centre (AWC) at RAFC Cranwell and OR(ICS) staff from MOD. The AWC point of contact for the symposium is Mr J West, RAFC Cranwell (01400-261201) Ext 6474.

Please fill in the reverse of this form and send to the above address by 18th May 1998

*Sponsored by  
The Air Force Board*



RAF/OD-T/07/98



28/04/1998 08:01

\*\* TOTAL PAGE.03 \*\*

tion 40

OD&T RAF CRANWELL

PAGE 02

## Thursday 4 June

1030 Registration & coffee in Whittle Hall

1100 Welcome and Opening Remarks  
*Chairman*

1110 Keynote: Opening address  
*DGICS*

### Concepts

1125 Space Technology and Concepts  
*OD Space AWC*

1215 Lunch in College Hall

1330 UK Space Policy and Programmes  
*AD OR(ICS)/*

### Trends

1415 Future Developments and Trends -  
UK MOD *DERA*

1500 Tea in College hall

1530 Future Developments and Trends -  
UK/European Industry *BNSC*

1615 View from the Pentagon  
*US DoD*

1700 Close

1930 Pre-Dinner Drinks at The Lawns

2000 Symposium Dinner at The Lawns

## Friday 5 June

0900 Introductory Remarks  
*Chairman*

### Communications

0905 Teledesic *Boeing*

0945 Celestri *MMS*

1030 Coffee in College Hall

### Remote Observation

1100 Spaceborne AWACS  
*Boeing*

1145 EOSAT *LM Space Imaging*

1230 Lunch in College Hall

1345 SBIRS *LM/TRW*

### Launch Systems

1430 TSTO/Re-usables  
*US Industry*

1515 Tea in College Hall

1545 Sea Launch  
*Boeing/Khrunichev*

1630 Closing Address *ACAS*

1645 Discussion *Chairman*

1700 Close

*(Contents may change due to the availability of speakers)*

## Registration Form

Please register the following delegate for:

### The Military Exploitation of Space Symposium

RAFC Cranwell 4 and 5 June 1998

Surname: .....

First Name: .....

Title/Position/Function: .....

Organisation: .....

Address: .....

Postcode: .....

Phone: ..... Fax: .....

Signature: .....

Fee per Delegate: Non MOD employee £220   
MOD employee £20

The fees include tea/coffee and buffet lunches for both days

Symposium Dinner: I would like to attend the dinner on the night of Thursday 4 June 1998 to be held at The Lawns, Lincoln and enclose an additional cheque for £30. YES  NO

Because of the large numbers expected to attend you are advised to book early. All applications must be received by 18 May. Cheques will be refunded if over-subscribed.

Dress: Uniform/jacket and tie for symposium, lounge suit for dinner

Method of payment: By Cheque(s) Sterling made payable to Nonpes RAF Cranwell.

To: Acrostatics Course Manager,  
OD&T, RAFC Cranwell,  
Skeffton Lincs. NG34 5HB.

Tel: 01400 261201 Ext. 6474/6425/6410

Accommodation: Due to the reorganisation of Cranwell Messes there will be no Service accommodation available at RAF Cranwell. Neighbouring stations at Waddington, Digby & Coningsby will be able to offer some accommodation if requested early and booked direct, quoting Space Symposium. A list of local hotels and camps are enclosed.

P.02/03 PAGE 03

Section 40

TO  
RAF  
CRANWELL

28 APR '97 13:27 FROM D E F PRESS OFFICE

Section 40



Day 1

Day 2

PAGE 03

Section 40

28 APR '97 09:04



UNCLASSIFIED  
covering RESTRICTED

LOOSE MINUTE

D/DAO/1/13

29 Apr 98

Sec(AS)2a1

UFO ARTICLES - 27 APR 98

References:


- A. D/Sec(AS)/64/5 dated 28 Apr 98.
- B. FYD/2401/10/1/Org dated 28 Apr 98.

1. At Reference A you asked me investigate the involvement of Fylingdales in events quoted in recent press articles on alleged UFO's.

2. As you will read in Fylingdale's reply at Reference B (attached), they have no knowledge of the alleged 'sighting', have no tapes or any other recorded data and have no involvement in the forthcoming Military Space Symposium at Cranwell.

3. The Fylingdales radar is tasked only to detect and track objects in orbit and those with a ballistic trajectory.



Wg Cdr  
ADGE 1  
MB4227   
CHOTS: ADGE1

Attachment: FYD/2401/10/1/Org dated 28 Apr 98.

covering RESTRICTED  
UNCLASSIFIED

GENERAL OFFICE

Fax: [REDACTED]

29 Apr '98

8:02

P.02/02

**UNCLASSIFIED**  
**RESTRICTED**

LOOSE MINUTE



FYD/2401/10/1/Org

28 Apr 98

MOD(DAO) ADGE 1

Copy to:

HQ 11/18 Gp (Wg Cdr AD C2 Ops)

**ALLEGED UFO SIGHTINGS - RAF FYLINGDALES**

Reference:

- A. Telecon [REDACTED] 28 Apr 98.  
B. Fax Ref D/DAO/1/13 dated 28 Apr 98.
1. Reference A requested RAF Fylingdales' response to 2 tabloid newspaper articles from 27 Apr 98 concerning alleged UFO activity.
  2. Both the newspaper articles forwarded under Reference B are pure fantasy and contain no element of truth. Over 35 years of operations at RAF Fylingdales, **no** UFOs have been tracked; indeed, the radar is not configured to track any such objects, particularly in the reported areas. It follows, therefore, that there is no recorded data on UFOs held at the Station.
  3. We have no knowledge of a 'Space' conference at RAF Cranwell in June, nor have we been approached to provide any supporting information of such an event. On 26 Apr 98, the Fylingdales Crew Commander was telephoned by [REDACTED] who asked about our involvement with the Cranwell conference. The Commander denied all knowledge of it and referred the caller back to the MOD Press Desk.
  4. Interestingly enough, as is always the case with these reports, the military source remains unnamed, lending weight to the fact that the reports are a fabrication.

[REDACTED]  
Wg Cdr  
OC**RESTRICTED**  
**UNCLASSIFIED**

29 APR '98 08:07

[REDACTED] PAGE.02

28 APR '97 13:27 FROM D E F PRESS OFFICE

TO [REDACTED] 40

P.01/03

From: [REDACTED]



DPO(RAF)  
 Room 0389  
 MOD Main Building  
 Whitehall  
 London SW1A 2HB

Ext. [REDACTED] 40

Your Reference:

Our Reference:

Sec (AS) 2a1

April 1998

**MEDIA REPORTS - UFOS**

1. You asked for briefing on the Daily Mail and Daily Express reports of UFOs and the conference at RAF Cranwell. You might want to be aware that we have had perhaps 20 further calls from the print and broadcast media, following-up these pieces. It has become quite tiresome.
2. Through the Daily Mail, we confirmed (as you suspected) that [REDACTED] is behind the reports. [REDACTED] might recall, is [REDACTED] who had difficulties with the financial management of the paper and departed under a cloud claiming some of mental breakdown. Subsequently he has been contributing material to the national press on a freelance basis. His MO appears to be to search out a kernel of information in one of the Service papers, which are freely available on news stands, and invent a sensationalist story around them.
3. The Air Warfare Centre is holding a seminar titled 'Military Exploitation of the Upper Atmosphere and Beyond' on June 3 - 4. It is open to military and civilians with an interest in this area. It is mentioned on the Internet and, I understand, may have had a paragraph in RAF News. It has nothing whatsoever to do with UFOs. A fax copy of the explanatory brochure is attached.
4. The Press Office has been knocking down this report since Sunday. Regrettably, some parts of the media have not let the facts stand on the way of a "good story."

[REDACTED]

DPO has confirmed [REDACTED] of the Air Warfare  
 Centre confirmed <sup>knowledge of us</sup> no <sup>Delegats</sup> to the  
 conference billed to present radar tapes  
 confirming this story.

DOCUMENT 4



**ROYAL AIR FORCE  
AIR WARFARE CENTRE  
OPERATIONAL DOCTRINE & TRAINING  
RAF COLLEGE CRANWELL  
UNITED KINGDOM  
NG34 8HB**

**COMMERCIAL**  
WITHIN UK 01400-261201 EXT 6474  
OUTSIDE UK 44-1400-261201 EXT 6474  
Internet Mail Address: [ASCM@OD-T.demon.co.uk](mailto:ASCM@OD-T.demon.co.uk)  
[www/raf/mod.uk/awc/asd](http://www/raf/mod.uk/awc/asd)

**1998 Aries Symposium  
Military Exploitation of Space**

A 2-day operational and technical symposium on the military exploitation of space, sponsored by the Air Force Board, will be held at RAFC Cranwell, UK, on Thur 4 - Fri 5 June. The aim of the symposium is to raise the profile of Space within the defence community, both military and industrial at 3 'levels': very senior officers, who are already well aware of MOD space policy but probably less aware of future technological trends; middle-ranking MOD personnel, whose professional knowledge would benefit significantly from greater exposure to the potential benefits of space exploitation; and industry, who wish to be informed about MOD interest in space as an operational environment and are keen to gain an opportunity to demonstrate the capabilities and concepts they may offer in support of space objectives. All the briefings at the symposium will be presented at an unclassified level; however, arrangements can be made for participants to discuss technology issues at a classified level. The symposium is being run jointly by the Air Warfare Centre (AWC) at RAFC Cranwell and OR(ICS) staff from MOD. The AWC point of contact for the symposium is Mr J West, RAFC Cranwell (01400-261201) Ext 6474.

Administration Office,  
OD & T  
RAFC Cranwell,  
Stamford,  
Leics,  
NG34 8HB

Please fill in the reverse of this form and send to the above address by 18th May 1998

*Sponsored by  
The Air Force Board*



\*\*\* E0 PAGE TOTAL \*\*\*  
28/04/1998 08:01

OD&T RAF CRANWELL

PAGE 02

28 APR '97 09:03 P.03/03

TO [redacted] on 40

28 APR '97 13:27 FROM D E F PRESS OFFICE [redacted] on 40  
PAGE 02

**Thursday 4 June**

**Friday 5 June**

**Registration Form**

Please register the following delegate for:

**The Military Exploitation of Space Symposium**  
 RAFC Cranwell 4 and 5 June 1998

Surname: .....

First Name: .....

Title/Position/Function: .....

Organisation: .....

Address: .....

Postcode: .....

Phone: ..... Fax: .....

Signature: .....

Fee per Delegate: Non MOD employee £220   
 MOD employee £20

The fees include tea/coffee and buffet lunches for both days

Symposium Dinner: I would like to attend the dinner on the night of Thursday 4 June 1998 to be held at The Lawns, Lincoln and enclose an additional cheque for £30. YES  NO

Because of the large number expected to attend you are advised to book early. All applications must be received by 18 May. Cheques will be refunded if over-subscribed.

Dress: Uniform/jacket and tie for symposium, lounge suit for dinner.

Method of payment: By Cheque(s) Stating made payable to Nampas RAF Cranwell.

To: Aerosystems Course Manager,  
 OD&T, RAFC Cranwell,  
 Skeford, Lincs. NG34 5HB.

Tel: 01400 261201 Ext. 6474/6425/6410

Accommodation: Due to the reorganisation of Cranwell Messes there will be no Service accommodation available at RAF Cranwell. Neighbouring stations at Waddington, Digby & Coningsby will be able to offer some accommodation if requested early and booked direct, quoting Space Symposium. A list of local hotels and maps are enclosed.

1030 Registration & coffee in Whittle Hall

1100 Welcome and Opening Remarks  
 Chairman

1110 Keynote Opening address  
 DGICS

Concepts

1125 Space Technology and Concepts  
 OD Space AWC

1215 Lunch in College Hall

1330 UK Space Policy and Programmes  
 AD OR(ICS)I

Trends

1415 Future Developments and Trends -  
 UK MOD DERA

1500 Tea in College hall

1530 Future Developments and Trends -  
 UK/European Industry BNSC

1615 View from the Pentagon  
 US DoD

1700 Close

1930 Pre-Dinner Drinks at The Lawns

2000 Symposium Dinner at The Lawns

0900 Introductory Remarks  
 Chairman

Communications

0905 Teledesic Boeing

0945 Celestri MMS

1030 Coffee in College Hall

Remote Observation

1100 Spaceborne AWACS  
 Boeing

1145 EOSAT LM Space Imaging

1230 Lunch in College Hall

1345 SBIRS LM/TRW

Launch Systems

1430 TSTO/Re-usables  
 US Industry

1515 Tea in College Hall

1545 Sea Launch  
 Boeing/Krunichev

1630 Closing Address ACAS

1645 Discussion Chairman

1700 Close

(Contents may change due to the availability of speakers)



Day 1

Day 2

P.02/03 PAGE 03

Section 40

TO: RADM CRANWELL

28 APR '97 13:27 FROM D E F PRESS OFFICE

PREF. 03

Section 40

28 APR '97 09:04



LOOSE MINUTE

D/Sec(AS)/64/5

28 Apr 98

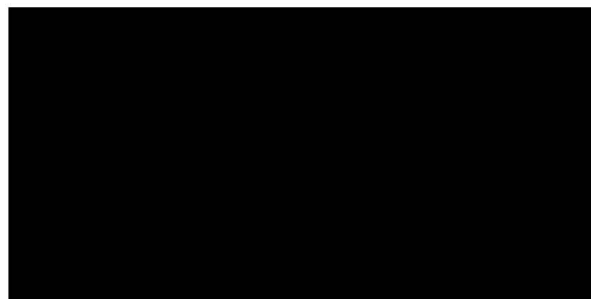
DPO(RAF)

**UFO ARTICLES: DAILY MAIL AND DAILY EXPRESS - 27 APRIL 1998**

1. USofS is seeking an urgent background briefing on the substance of the two tabloid articles on "UFOs" on 27 April (see attached).

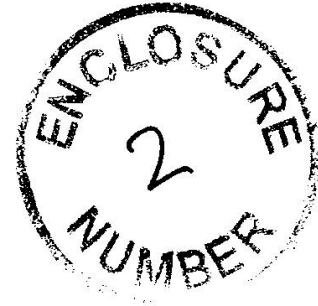
2. I shall be coordinating the brief and should be grateful if you could send me background lines on the likely source of the article ( [REDACTED] ) and information you have obtained about the Space Symposium to be held at Cranwell in June, and whether the organisers know anything about details of this alleged incident being presented to the Symposium. I am seeking formal lines from RAF Fylingdales on their knowledge of this alleged incident in parallel.

3. In order to meet the Private Office deadline I should be most grateful if you could let me have something by **COP WED 29 APR** please. Thanks for your assistance.



Sec(AS)2a1  
MB8245 [REDACTED] 40  
CHOTS: SEC(AS)2A1

Enc.



LOOSE MINUTE

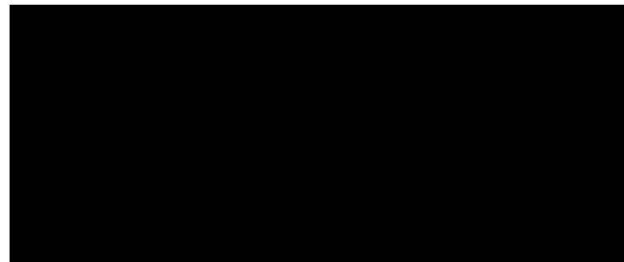
D/Sec(AS)/64/5

28 Apr 98

ADGE1

**UFO ARTICLES: DAILY MAIL AND DAILY EXPRESS - 27 APRIL 1998**

1. You discussed informally with someone at RAF Fylingdales the background to the Daily Mail article of yesterday.
2. As you will see from the attached, USofS has seen this article (and another from the Daily Express) and has asked for a background briefing on the Department's knowledge of this matter. In the light of this formal request from the Minister's office I should be grateful if you would approach RAF Fylingdales and seek a formal line from them on their knowledge of this alleged event.
3. May I ask for something by close of play tomorrow please.



Sec(AS)2a1  
MB8245 [redacted] 0  
CHOTS: SEC(AS)2A1



PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR DEFENCE

LOOSE MINUTE

D/USofS/JS/28/1/0

28 April 1998

Sec(AS)2a1

Copy to:  
DPR/RAF

[Redacted]

*For info.  
Asked DPO(RAF) + ADGE 1  
to provide me with  
formal guidance. Agreed with  
[Redacted] wed let him  
have something by 1400hrs  
on Thursday*

40  
28/4

UFO ARTICLES: DAILY MAIL AND DAILY EXPRESS, 27 APRIL 1998

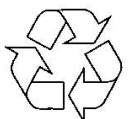
... The Under Secretary of State has seen the above articles (copies attached) and has requested an urgent brief on the reports.

2. The Minister would also like to know all the details of the Space Symposium to be held at the RAF College, Cranwell in June, including information on the taped radar records that will be presented.

3. I would be grateful for an early response.

[Redacted]

APS/USofS  
MB6215 [Redacted]  
USofS/Mailbox



Recycled Paper

The Express  
27 April 1998  
Page 27

# RAF spots speeding UFOs with new radar

BRITAIN'S X-Files may be opened up amid claims of stunning evidence that UFOs fly over Britain.

Tapes to be shown to British and American experts are said to show objects which change shape in mid-air and a battleship-sized aircraft travelling at 33 times the speed of sound.

The details are due to be revealed in early June at a Space Symposium at the RAF's Cranwell staff college.

A senior RAF source claims the mystery craft have been picked up by the latest Phased Array radar at the Cold War listening post at Fylingdales in North Yorkshire.

One senior officer said: "What we have seen are not secret weapons. They are craft

BY JOHN INGHAM

of which we have no technical knowledge. We know their shape, speeds and height but cannot explain what they are."

The most spectacular discovery is a craft spotted by Fylingdales and the Dutch Air Force over the North Sea. Described as "the size of a battleship", it zig-zagged at up to 24,000mph for 15 minutes, "as if it wanted to be spotted".

Another tape shows a group of 12 oval objects seemingly change shape, to the amazement of observers.

But the RAF is expected to withhold some X-Files. It is feared they could reveal how sophisticated their new radars are.

*What is all this about?*

Daily Mail  
27 April 1998  
Page 17

**RAF TRACKS MYSTERY CRAFT OVER NORTH SEA ...  
AND FIGHTERS CAN'T CATCH IT**

# 24,000mph UFO buzzes Britain

THE RAF has tracked a UFO 'as big as a battleship' off the coast of Britain, military sources revealed yesterday.

They said the massive craft was tracked flying in a zig-zag pattern at 17,000mph over the North Sea. It then accelerated to 24,000mph and zoomed off towards the Atlantic.

The Dutch air force also tracked the UFO, but two F-16 fighters scrambled to intercept the object were unable to keep up, it is claimed.

RAF officials are said to be baffled by the object, spotted by the Ministry of Defence long-range listening station on Fylingdales moor in North Yorkshire.

'It was definitely under control, judging by the various manoeuvres executed,' said a source. 'It appeared to be triangular and was around the size of a battleship (about 900ft long).'

Radar records of the craft are due to be presented to science and military experts from around the world, who will examine how to exploit space for military purposes at a conference at RAF College, Cranwell, Lincolnshire, in June. Other tapes of

By DAVID DERBYSHIRE  
Science Correspondent

the UFO - thought to have been made during the last two years - are being withheld because they give too much information about the radar base's scanning ability.

However, military chiefs may release a second series of tapes, reported to show 12 UFOs changing shape in mid-flight.

While the 'battleship' UFO is most likely to be an experimental aircraft or a sighting caused by a freak weather effect, UFO watchers believe it is further evidence that the Earth is being visited by alien craft.

The popularity of TV series such as the X-Files has rekindled interest in flying saucers and conspiracy theories in recent years.

A spokesman for the Fortean Times, the journal devoted to UFOs, psychic phenomena and the paranormal, said: 'The vast majority of strange objects seen in the sky have a more down-to-earth explanation. But most UFO investigators would be very interested in seeing these tapes.' The latest theory gaining

popularity among some dedicated UFO watchers is that the military deliberately release stories about UFOs as a 'smokescreen' - and that witnesses are really seeing top-secret experimental aircraft.

The base at RAF Fylingdales has been watching the skies since the end of the Cold War. A large pyramid-shaped, 360-degree radar has now replaced the gigantic landmark 'golf balls' tracking system.

The base has concentrated on tracking satellites and pieces of space junk circling the Earth.

Daily Mail, Monday, April 27, 1998

RAF TRACKS MYSTERY CRAFT OVER NORTH SEA

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The base has concentrated on tracking satellites and pieces of space junk circling the Earth.

Head of Ser(As). [redacted] Thank you! [redacted] 40  
You might wish to be aware. The Air Staff have checked with Fylingdales and they have no idea what this is about

I do not know what the Cranwell Conference is about - we are endeavouring to make further enquiries (the Air Warfare Centre has [redacted] same interest).

PTO



A UFO in science fiction: But are they secretly science fact?

## Nurofen Advance

ENCLOSURE 4/5



Head of Sec(AS)

Thank you. How could I have missed this!

It's a pity this doesn't make clear he's not the MOD UFO spokes person.

Have you haven't yet seen February Focus

# Leisure

ENCLOSURE  
61  
NUMBER

## Never mind the saucers, what about the occupants?



PHOTO: Michele Kaczynski

Nick Pope.

### Mark Ottowell talks to Nick Pope, "the real Fox Mulder"

IT would be difficult not to have come across MOD civil servant Nick Pope in the media of late. Dubbed by the Press as "the real Fox Mulder" after the phlegmatic hero of cult TV series *The X-Files*, Nick came to fame in the UFO field, having worked for Sec(AS) where much of his time was spent researching claims of UFO sightings of one kind or another.

Once he had amassed enough information, and felt the environment was receptive enough, he published *Open Skies, Closed Minds* (Simon and Schuster, £5.99), a candid look at some of the quite astounding cases he studied while working in the branch which deals with investigating UFO sightings.

Before interest had even waned on *Open Skies*, he followed it up with his latest

book, *The Uninvited* (Simon and Schuster, £15.99).

"With the publication of *Open Skies* I found myself very much at the centre of the UFO controversy in this country. I was in huge demand by the media," Nick said. In fact he has acquired quite a few commitments from his first book.

### Daunting

"I write a regular column for a UFO magazine called *Sightings* and also have a column on the Internet magazine *Hot Gossip UK*."

He is also asked to write occasional pieces for newspapers and to provide quotes for the media.

"I effectively found myself doing two jobs — my usual one at MOD, then going home to a pile of correspondence, requests for interviews, letters from the public, and children doing school projects on UFOs."

"It can be daunting. I

regularly find myself getting to bed at around 2am."

Nick has been crusading to win the subject of UFOs some long overdue respectability. "People come up to me in the street and say 'well done, you're doing a good job'. My activities have fuelled interest even with those who don't believe in the subject, and there are a lot more believers at MOD than you'd imagine."

Nick said he has a good relationship with colleagues in his department. And it is not unusual for complete strangers to invite him to lunch!

"People are starting to believe for the same reasons that convinced me when I was doing the job officially — it is not just about lights in the sky. It is the testimonies of pilots, radar evidence and abnormally high radiation levels without explanation. There is a good science behind it and people are beginning to wake up to that"

*The Uninvited* addresses the phenomenon of alien abductions. Nick explained: "I wanted to deal with these extraordinary claims from people who profess to have been abducted by extraterrestrials, and also to focus on the occupants of the craft."

Unlike other books about alien abductions, *The Uninvited* is not just about case studies. It attempts to give an overview of the entire subject, tracing the history of the phenomenon right

up to date, drawing parallels between folklore and modern accounts of alien abductions.

It also gives the accounts of six people speaking out for the first time about their experiences of abduction. "I do have cases that fit into the traditional mould, of people being drawn up in a beam of light and finding themselves in a craft where a medical procedure of some sort is carried out. But the six cases I looked at in detail move away from that and show experiences where there may be parallels with all sorts of other intriguing phenomenon such as out of body and near death experiences," Nick said.

"This subject has huge diversity — it is not just clear cut as some researchers like to imply. There is not going to be one neat solution to the abduction mystery, just as I am convinced that there is not going to be one single definitive answer to the UFO mystery."

His book differs from most of the others about the subject because it contains first-hand accounts unaltered by the author or the publishers.

Nick said: "I made a conscious decision that I would give the 'abductees' editorial control over their accounts. Far too many times I came across people who were extremely angry at the way their accounts had been twisted to fit a particular investigator's belief."

He continued: "I am the first to admit that I viewed the

'abductees' with extreme scepticism when I first came across them.

"But one of the main reasons why I wrote *The Uninvited* was to reach out to the world of science and offer a challenge to prove or disprove it."

### Extraordinary

The implications of abductions are far-reaching. Even if the phenomenon does not involve extraterrestrials, there can be no denying its extraordinary nature.

"One of the most interesting things I have come across in my case load is the transformative nature of these experiences that have resulted in some curious life changes.

"I have encountered people who have developed numerous talents and interest in fields such as art, painting and poetry. But the illogical nature of the radical life changes these people have experienced has led me to conclude that they might have been induced by an external source."

The release of *The Uninvited* deliberately coincided with the 50th Anniversary of the famous Roswell crash in America, where it is alleged that a flying saucer crashed in the desert and the bodies of its occupants were spirited away by the US Government.

It also ties in with the 50th anniversary of the expression

"flying saucer" — a misnomer.

On 24 June 1947, light aircraft pilot Kenneth Arnold was flying over the Cascade mountains in Washington State when he was overtaken by nine boomerang-shaped craft moving at double the speed of any contemporary aircraft.

He described their movement as "like a saucer would if you skipped it across the water". The media misinterpreted this and described the craft as "flying saucers".

### Phenomenon

For those who believe in the extraterrestrial hypothesis, the burning question is why are aliens coming here? And how are they interacting with humans?

UFO activity certainly seems to be on the increase. But could it be just a case of PMT — Pre-Millennium Tension?

Nick replied: "That's almost impossible to say. My perception as an investigator is that we are seeing an acceleration of the phenomenon."

"As we approach the millennium it is possible that hysteria might lead to well meaning but essentially fraudulent claims as people get drawn into the subject for some sort of psychological reason. But if you asked me to come down on one side or the other I would have to say that the pace is hotting up..."



PHOTO: RAF Akrotiri

### MOD rugby team meets Cyprus challenge

MOD's representative rugby side flew to Lamaka recently to take up a two game challenge from RAF Akrotiri — the first match was against a Joint Service Side and the second against an RAF Akrotiri team, writes Heather Arnold, DSRA Secretary.

Conscious of the climate change, the squad acclimatised

around the hotel pool, followed by a serious training session in the heat of the day.

Fully match fit and rising to the challenge, the team was ready to meet the might of the Combined Services squad.

The first 15 minutes proved that the opposition was well acclimatised to the conditions, as they scored a super try after

running the ball the whole length of the pitch. A reasonable sized number of supporters saw the MOD side slowly take control of the game, winning every Line Out Ball and scrum. The weight of the MOD pack was proving to be superior, and their persistence paid off with MOD eventually winning a fine match 22-18.

Confidence riding high, MOD was anxious to take on RAF Akrotiri. Fortunately it was quite a cool day by Cypriot standards, and the MOD team was raring to go!

### Confidence

The first half saw MOD run in nine tries preventing the opposition from getting any sight of the ball. Heads high and confidence flowing MOD increased its lead in the second half with some marvellous individual performances from team members. A flowing, swift game ended with a magnificent score of 50-12.

**Squad members:** M Scott (Captain), J Ingham, K Park, T Miller, P Hodge, P Emmerson, L Oman, S Hulme, J Senchall, A Williams, H Phillips, S Thomas, V de Miceli, R Matthews, N Turner, G Ashford, R Williams, T Broome, S Wallace, K Pollard, M Phillips. **Officials:** H Arnold (DSRA), I Anderson and M Chalk (coaches), L Thwaites (physio).

DSRA is indebted to all the staff involved at RAF Akrotiri for their hospitality, time and management of arrangements, ensuring that MOD had a wonderful tour.

### Caption competition



PHOTO: Capt James Anderson

SOLDIERS on the Falkland Islands came up with a novel way of raising £500 for charity recently. Gnomes were for hire for £5 to harass anyone gnominated. The gnome stayed with the victim, continually pestering until he was given £5 to lift the curse.

The idea was the brainchild of Flt Lt Jon Baber, OC the Physical Education Flight, who had a team of Army volunteers to help him. The gnomes are gnome-ally Physical Training Instructors from Mount Pleasant Airfield, but were willing to lead a double life for a week to raise money — not for the gnomeless — but for Wireless for the Blind. Pictured above is Falklands gnome LCpl Paul Watson RE, taking time out from frenetic fund-raising for a spot of fishing.

Can you come up with a witty caption for this picture? The sender of the most amusing suggestion will win a copy of *Dad's Army, A Celebration* by Richard Webber (Virgin, £14.99), with *Dad's Army* creators Jimmy Perry and David Croft, and a foreword by Michael Palin. Runners-up win sturdy *Focus* mugs. Send your entries to: Gnome Caption Competition, Focus, at the address on page 3 by 9 March. The Editor's decision is final.

Win prizes!

... some graciously, those  
passed over ... are left to  
indulge their idiosyncracies."

send costs out of sight.

THE TIMES

Law Report page 41  
2 FEB 98

# Britain lends an ear to the search for ET

By ROBIN YOUNG

IF ET is phoning Earth, British radio astronomers could shortly be listening in to his calls.

Scientists at Jodrell Bank in Cheshire are to play a key role in the most intensive search yet for evidence of extra-terrestrial intelligence. And if there are radio hams striving to make contact from distant galaxies we might be on their wavelength within a decade.

The plan is to link two of the world's largest radio telescopes so that they can jointly scour the skies in search of signals from alien civilisations.

The 250 ft Lovell Telescope operated by the University of Manchester will be linked to the vast 1,000 ft instrument at Arecibo in Puerto Rico.

Working together over a ten-year period, they will listen for artificial radio messages from 2,000 Sun-like stars within a range of 150 light years from the Earth. State-of-the-art computer technology will allow the scientists to scan and sift 50 million frequency channels at the same time.

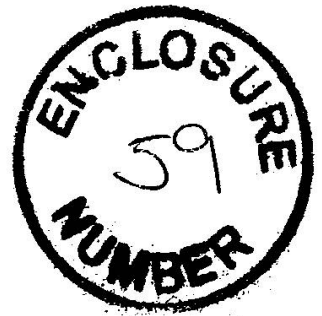
The move marks a turning

point in the Search for Extra Terrestrial Intelligence (Seti). An American scientist at the forefront of the project said he would be surprised if ET failed to make contact.

At present the California-based Seti Institute operates from a relatively small 140 ft radio telescope at Greenbank, West Virginia. But this summer the whole scale of Project Phoenix, the Seti programme launched by the institute in the 1970s, will be transformed when it switches to Puerto Rico.

Arecibo, the largest single-dish radio telescope in the world, is built in the natural hollow of a mountain and uses the rotation of the Earth to scan the sky.

Richard Davis, senior lecturer in physics and astronomy at Manchester University, who was chiefly responsible for bringing Seti to Jodrell Bank, said: "People often wonder why Seti hasn't been successful, but a serious search has not been made to date. This is the first time we've had a system that's really up to the job. If there are any transmissions out there, we'll find them."



Sunday Times  
18 January 1998  
Page 1.3

## Tories hid Howard's 'alien visitation'

by Sebastian Hamilton  
Westminster  
Correspondent

PERHAPS they were illegal aliens. Michael Howard, the former home secretary, was visited by extraterrestrial beings in the run-up to the last election, according to UFO-watchers near his home in Kent.

In a case worthy of The X Files, the claims were apparently covered up by a Conservative party media machine desperate to avoid embarrassing headlines and cartoons.

Senior Tory spin doctors say they were aware of the story, which appeared in a local newspaper, while Howard's agent has admitted halting publication of further detailed reports about the incident in the paper by complaining to the editor.

The bizarre story began on the night of March 8, 1997, a week before John Major announced the date of the general election but with all the parties already firmly in campaign mode. At 3am Sarah Hall, a reporter on the Folkestone Herald, was driving along Donkey Street in Lympne, near Hythe, when she heard a strange humming and stopped her car.

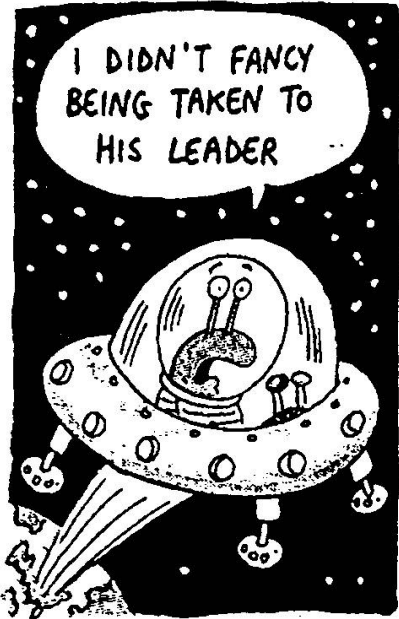
Ahead of her she saw a huge triangular craft hovering over a field. "It had a large dome at one end and lots of bright lights around the sides and looked quite shiny. I had no idea what it was. I felt the hairs stand up on the back of my neck," she said.

"After a few seconds it shot off and stopped 500 metres away. It then moved and stopped four times before flying off."

Her sighting was confirmed by Chris Rolfe, a local UFO spotter. "This tallies with an unofficial account I was given that it was seen by two firemen hovering above Mr How-

ard's house at the same time," he said.

Eight separate reports were



filed with local UFO-spotters of a triangular craft, grey in colour, hovering in an area 15 miles around Howard's home.

Hall wrote up her experience for her paper but was astonished to find that when it appeared, the location had been moved from near Howard's home to the other side of the marshes at New Romney.

"Events seemed to have been relocated several miles away. I don't know how this came about; I have asked but have not been given an explanation."

When Hall attempted to suggest in a later article that Howard's home had been the real site of the visit, the Tories began to fight back. Michael Buxton, Howard's agent, telephoned the paper to complain: the stories stopped.

Neither the local police nor the Ministry of Defence have any record of an incident that evening, despite the series of sightings. A police spokesman, however, said it might have been dealt with by Howard's own police protection team.

Sheila Gunn, John Major's press secretary, said last week she was aware of reports at the time of an extraterrestrial sighting, but the Tories had managed to keep them out of the national papers. "It was all rather strange," she said, "but then, that election campaign was pretty strange all round, wasn't it?"

The case is now being pressed by Mark Watts, the Labour MEP for Kent East, who is asking the European parliament to investigate.

"There have been so many sightings from reliable witnesses — people can't be suffering from mass hysteria," he said.

Howard, who was last year described as having "something of the night about him" by Ann Widdecombe, the former prisons minister, was last week unavailable for comment. A senior Tory party spokesman said he knew nothing about the story; nor could he confirm the exact movements that day of John Redwood, the shadow trade secretary, nicknamed "the Vulcan" because of his vaguely extraterrestrial appearance.

64/5

RIDDLE OF UFO SIGHTED OVER

HOWARD'S HOUSE



Above: How a UFO landing at the Howard home might have looked. Right: Mr Howard and wife Sandra

# Take us to your leader



AS the minister in charge of immigration, he was used to dealing with illegal aliens.

But it seems that some visitors to Michael Howard's country retreat were far more alien than those queuing hopefully at the Home Office.

At least eight witnesses claim that a UFO hovered near the then Home Secretary's Kent home a few weeks before the General Election.

The close encounter was taken so seriously that spin doctors at Conservative Central Party Office were alerted, it emerged yesterday.

It is still unclear why aliens would want a face-to-tentacle chat with a minister once described as having 'something of the night about him'. Maybe they

By DAVID DERBYSHIRE

were after some advice about inter-planetary border controls. Or perhaps they simply got Mr Howard mixed up with John Redwood, the one-time Tory leadership contender known as The Vulcan for his Mr Spock-like analytical style.

The UFO was spotted on March 8 last year, a week before John Major announced the election date.

One witness, local newspaper reporter Sarah Hall, was driving through Lympne, near Hythe at 3am when she noticed an unusual humming. She stopped and watched a craft floating over a nearby field, close to Michael Howard's home. It was shiny, with a dome at one end and bright

lights around its side. 'I had no idea what it was,' she said. 'I felt the hairs stand up on the back of my neck.'

Local UFO expert Chris Rolfe said other witnesses, including two firemen, saw the craft that night in a 15-mile radius of Mr Howard's home.

The Tory chiefs were alerted after Miss Hall wrote a first-hand account for the Folkestone Herald, where she had worked for 18 months. Yesterday advisers who worked closely with Mr Howard during the election campaign confirmed that the UFO story was well known in Westminster but denied there had been a 'Men in Black'-style cover up.

They did admit, however, that the party had been keen to play down the sighting because of the risk of embarrassing headlines.

'Mr Howard had more important matters to deal with than UFOs,' one source said yesterday. 'He knew about the reports, but I doubt whether he was very concerned about them.'

John Major's press secretary Sheila Gunn also confirmed that Party Central Office knew about the UFO in the run-up to the election. 'There were calls about it because the local paper had done something,' she said. 'But while we take calls seriously, there are some that we'd rather ignore.'

Although the sighting is well documented, the police and Ministry of Defence say they have no records. Sceptics say the craft was probably a helicopter or jet. But some locals say the true story has not come out and believe the local paper came under pressure to play

down the incident. Kent UFO expert Derek Sheffield said the Government was obsessed with hushing up UFO reports. 'There's one hell of a cover-up going on here,' he said.

But Melody Foreman, who took over as acting editor shortly after the sighting, denied that the paper had come under pressure to suppress the story.

Mark Watts, the Labour MEP for Kent East and a self-confessed sceptic, is campaigning for an end to the secrecy surrounding UFOs.

'If someone like the Home Secretary — one of the most protected people in Britain — is subjected to a close encounter, you would expect there to be a comment from someone,' he said. 'The whole thing is very mysterious.'

## On the hook, the ones that got away

By KATE GINN

WHEN Louis Jones failed to appear after a day-long sea fishing trip with his stepson Matthew, his wife became increasingly worried.

They had promised to telephone if they would not be home by 10pm on Saturday.

But the hours ticked by and at 11am yesterday a frantic Mrs Jones reported them missing.

The result was a full-scale air and sea search which cost the taxpayer £35,000. An RAF helicopter was scrambled, two lifeboats

launched, and 35 volunteer coastguards summoned. South Glamorgan police drafted in officers to help, leaving some rural regions with no officer at all.

As the weather worsened, with 50mph winds and torrential rain, the rescue teams feared the worst, imagining the men clinging to a cliff or swept away to sea.

In fact Mr Jones, 46, and his 24-year-old stepson Matthew Dodds

were celebrating their catches in the safety and warmth of a pub.

Rather the worse for wear, Mr Jones forgot to phone his wife and came closing time, the pair decided to stay the night.

Yesterday, while the rescue attempt was in full swing, Mrs Jones began to conduct her own search by calling friends and relatives.

It was a friend who mentioned a sighting of the errant fishermen in a pub in Maesteg, near Bridgend, 30 miles from their home. The res-

cue was finally called off almost four hours after it began.

Last night the men, perhaps not looking forward to their welcome, had still not made it home to Porth in Rhondda.

Rescue teams involved in the search were furious. 'It was an incredible waste of manpower and a danger to the crews, both on the land and sea,' said Gerry Adams, of Barry Dock lifeboat station.

Watchman Lee Haigh of Swansea Coastguard, who co-ordinated the search, said: 'The wife was beside

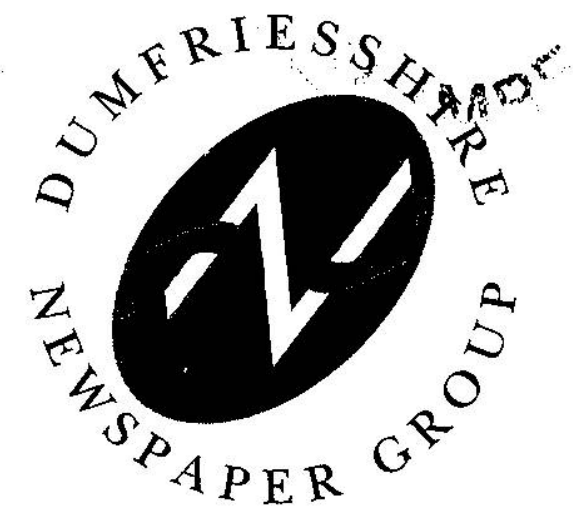
herself with worry and did the right thing raising the alarm. The thousands of pounds it cost could have been avoided with just a 10p telephone call.'

Launching a lifeboat costs £5,400 a time, while the helicopter from RAF Chivenor in Devon, with a four-man crew, costs £6,000 an hour.

An RAF spokesman said: 'While the helicopter was being used on this, it was taken away from other things. Someone's life could well have been put at risk.'

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# More sightings in Solway UFO mystery

DUMFRIES COURIER  
J. ANNANDALE  
ORSGRUGR  
5/12/97

by Bryan Armstrong

THE MYSTERY of the so-called 'Solway UFO triangle' deepened this week when two Kirtlebridge women described an encounter with a silvery coloured 'craft'.

Effie Gow and Betty Williamson broke their silence over the incident after reading reports of similar sightings in the Dumfriesshire Newspapers Group.

The women were on the final leg of a car journey from Dumfries to Annan when their attention was drawn to a bright "tangerine-coloured ball" in the sky which vanished within seconds.

More significantly, they described that over the next two minutes an arrow-shaped silver coloured object plunged out of the same area of sky towards the Solway Firth.

Mrs Gow, a former Ministry of Defence worker of Tilekilns Cottage, and Mrs Williamson, who farms with her son at Jockstown, admitted that the widely held scepticism of UFOs initially made them reluctant to go public with their experience.

"We were both stunned by what we saw and literally gasped", recalled Mrs Gow, who said the incident was around 4.05 pm on Sunday 23rd November.

"I do not know what the tangerine ball was but it seemed to disappear into thin air.

"The silvery object came from the Langholm direction and slowly descended westwards until it disappeared behind the rooftops of Annan. I think it must have come down in the Solway, off Dornock or Eastriggs.

"I'm fairly certain it was not a conventional aircraft although it looked solid and could have been some kind of craft.

"I am not one of these people who goes chasing flying saucers but I do not think we have the technology to develop something like this.

"The only explanation I could come up with is

that there is something top secret being fested by the MOD at RAF Spadeadam. If that's the case I think people should know if these things are landing in the Solway"!

Mrs Williamson, who was driving, revealed she was equally mystified by what they witnessed.

She commented: "I've never seen anything like this before. The orange object was dazzling and very distinctive but soon vanished.

"The silver shaped one was also clear and was visible for fully two minutes. It was hard to estimate its size but it travelled for a while at the height of a low flying jet".

She added that it was a fairly bright afternoon with good visibility.

The women said they did not contact the emergency services at the time because there was no obvious indication of a crash and they felt sure the spectacle would have also been witnessed by other people.

Both are certain, however, that what they saw was unconnected with electrical storms in the west of Dumfries and Galloway over the same weekend.

A spokesman at the H.M. Coastguard control centre at Liverpool said that no specific incident had been logged in the Annan area of the Solway at that time.

He said: "We did receive reports of unusual lights in the sky over Dumfries and Galloway from the Cumbrian coast and through police on the Isle of Man but that was eventually put down to the lightning".

But he added: "There seems to be a lot going on in the sky over the Southern Scotland coast as we get more reports of unusual sightings there than anywhere else".

An RAF spokesman in London said last night that the role of the former rocket-testing base at Spadeadam was now primarily ground level weapons testing and as a target in air attack exercises.

He added: "Nothing is launched into the air from the station".

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The People  
2 November 1997  
Page 14

## UFO attacked our nukes

BRITAIN'S former military supremo is asking the Government to investigate whether aliens fired LASER BEAMS at our nuclear arsenal.

Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton, retired chief of the defence staff, wants the probe to be launched into the sighting of a UFO hovering over RAF Woodbridge in Suffolk. He has now tabled questions to the Ministry of

Defence asking whether nuclear weapons stored at Woodbridge were struck by light beams fired from an unidentified craft.

He claims that US air force personnel who saw the "attack" filed reports which are being covered up by the MoD.

He said: "The Ministry has doggedly denied that anything untoward happened and I simply don't believe them." Defence minister Lord Gilbert refused to confirm

or deny whether the base was equipped with nuclear missiles.

He added: "There is no evidence to suggest that the Ministry of Defence received any such reports."

The mysterious sighting happened in December 1980 and was picked up on RAF radar. Phantom jets were scrambled and pilots reported intense, bright lights in the sky.

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Daily Telegraph  
24 September 1997  
Page 8

The Independent  
24 September 1997  
Page 8

## Satellite may have caused fireball in sky

By Richard Savill  
and Aisling Irwin

**BRIGHT orange fireballs in the sky, explosions and "wooshing" sounds which panicked people across Scotland yesterday may have been a broken-up satellite re-entering the atmosphere, the Ministry of Defence said.**

Coastguards, police and the RAF received many calls from people who saw or heard a flaming object crash, rattling windows from the north-east of England to the Western Isles.

The British Geological Survey in Edinburgh said that its seismometers, planted at 40-mile intervals across Britain, had picked up an impact that broke the sound barrier.

RAF chiefs contacted Nasa, the American space agency, which said it was not aware of any incidents involving satellite re-entry into the atmosphere that could have been responsible.

After hours of checking data, scientists in Edinburgh said the cause was likely to be a meteor.

But the MoD said last night that the flashes were most likely to be from "an old satellite which broke up in space last week".

## Mystery lights, file under X

Reports from a wide stretch of northern England and Scotland of strange glowing lights in the sky and a possible explosion left emergency services baffled yesterday.

Coastguards, police and the RAF began receiving calls from worried members of the public at 9am. The descriptions varied but included yellow, orange and white trails in the sky sometimes accompanied by the sound of whooshing or a loud explosion.

Sensors at the Geological Survey team in Edinburgh recorded some form of "sonic event" in the Moray Firth area. But extensive searches by RAF search and rescue helicopters, checks by coastguard and discussions with the experts at the American space agency Nasa failed to produce any explanation.

No civilian or military aircraft were reported missing or overdue and the Royal Astronomical Society and Nasa could not explain the phenomena. They were not aware of any stray matter in space heading towards the Earth.

Bill McFadyen, of Aberdeen Coastguard, said the calls came from Tyne Tees up along the Scottish coast to the southern tip of the Outer Hebrides and from well inland. "It's very unusual to have something on this scale all the way up the northern coast of Britain. It's a complete mystery to us. I get the feeling that there was a series of events. I would be surprised if it was just one large event."

A spokesman for RAF Kinloss said they had searched an area between Duns and Green-

law in the Borders after a suggestion that the lights were an aircraft, but found nothing. He added that there were similar reports from the Continent - in particular around Brussels - yesterday morning.

David Galloway, of the Geological Survey in Edinburgh, said a "sonic event" had registered on six of its seismometers at 9am. This would be caused normally by an aeroplane going supersonic or a meteorite or a satellite burning up. He suspected that the lights were a meteorite coming down, but which had vaporised on entering the Earth's atmosphere. He said reports of lights were probably exaggerated by atmospheric conditions which were amplifying whatever was out there.

— Louise Jury

The Mirror  
24 September 1997  
Page 17

## 'Jet disaster' was meteor

A DAZZLING meteor has been blamed for hundreds of reports of a mid-air crash.

Countless people in Scotland and north-east England thought a plane had blown up as a series of flashes lit up the night sky.

An RAF helicopter was even scrambled from Boulmer, Northumberland, after a woman reported an air disaster.

Now it is believed that the spectacular fireworks display was caused by a meteor's dying moments as it plunged to earth.



OFFICIAL

Reports prove that UFOs landed in Britain



THEY'VE BEEN HEARD

MANUAL OF AIR TRAFFIC SERVICES Part 1  
6-18  
Chapter 4

**3 UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS**  
A controller receiving a report about an unidentified flying object must obtain as much as possible of the information required to complete a report in the format shown below.

Report of Unidentified Flying Object

A. Date, Time and Duration of Sighting  
Local times to be quoted.

B. Description of Object  
Number of objects, size, shape, colours, brightness, sound, smell, etc.

C. Exact Position of Observer  
Geographical location, indoors or outdoors, stationary or moving.

D. How Observed  
Naked eye, binoculars, other optical device, still or movie camera.

E. Direction in which Object was First Seen  
A landmark may be more useful than a badly estimated bearing.

**NEAR COLLISION - AIR TRAFFIC INCIDENT REPORT FORM**  
NOTE: 1) To be filled in printed characters and in English language.  
2) Dotted lines indicate items to be completed on an incident report by radio.  
3) Items marked with B must be filled in by observation.

SECTION 1 - GENERAL INFORMATION

TYPE OF INCIDENT	A	INCIDENT (NEAR COLLISION) PROCEDURAL FACILITY
NAME OF PILOT-IN-COMMAND	B	ZAGHETTI
OPERATOR	C	ALITALIA
IDENTIFICATION MARKING OF AIRCRAFT	D	1-DAWC
AIRCRAFT TYPE	E	MD 80
RADIO CALL SIGN (IF DIFFERENT FROM ICAO)	F	VAZ 284 - LON 124.1 - ATN U
FLIGHT LEVEL OR ALTITUDE	G	MILAN - LIMATE
ROUTE OF FLIGHT	H	LONDON - HEATHROW
POSITION AT TIME OF INCIDENT	I	~ 30NM SOUTH BIGGIN VOR - HEADING 320 - TAS 3
FLIGHT LEVEL OR ALTITUDE AT TIME OF INCIDENT	J	LEVEL FLIGHT - CLIMBING (DESCENDING) TURNING FL 212 - ALT 103 - RATE 30
TYPE OF FLIGHT PLAN	K	VMC
WEATHER CONDITIONS AT TIME OF INCIDENT	L	Distance above 'below cloud' 'top' 'base' 30
DATE AND TIME OF INCIDENT	M	REPORTED BY RADIO TO LON 124.1 10/1/89

SECTION 2 - DETAILED INFORMATION

DESCRIPTION OF OBJECT  
Type: OBJECT SIMILAR MISSILE - WITHOUT EXHAUST FLAME - LIGHT BROWN - UNKNOWN  
Shape: ABOUT 3 METERS LENGTH - ROUND SHAPE  
Other details: ABOUT 3-4 SECONDS A FLYING OBJECT, VERY SIMILAR TO A MISSILE, LIGHT BROWN COLOR RED, WITH A TRAIL OPPOSITE THEN MINE WHICH WAS 320 - IT WAS HIGHER THAN US ABOUT 1000 FT.

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT  
At once I said 'LOOK AT OUT - LOOK AT OUT - SEEN - AS SOON AS THE ...'

By JOHN EARLS

ALIENS have been visiting Britain for more than 50 years - and that's official.

Secret Government documents reveal that some spacecraft have even crash-landed here.

But the details have been kept hidden from all of us in a giant cover-up similar to that in TV's The X Files.

That is until now. A sensational new book A Covert Agenda reveals that the alien visits are fact and not fiction.

The author, full-time UFO researcher Nicholas Redfern, maintains that the Ministry of Defence and the RAF have known for half a century about spacecraft which have crash-landed throughout Britain.

At least SEVEN UFOs have crashed in Britain since the end of the Second World War. Hundreds more UFOs have been sighted since the 1940s. Redfern, 33, from

Walsall, West Midlands, also reveals details of a secret MoD base where reports of crashed UFOs are compiled.

He has spent years investigating official memos and uncovered top-secret documents which prove that the Government does not want us to know how much it knows about aliens.

And in the book he describes how dozens of spacecraft have flown over military bases, by-passing flight security systems.

At the height of the Cold War, the Government was so concerned about UFOs that it contacted the Soviet Union to establish a joint task force to examine the security implications of alien craft.

But it is the evidence that UFOs have ALREADY landed in Britain which is the most scandalous cover-up in British UFO history.

Now turn the page for the full amazing story...

From Squadron Leader B E Webster RAF

**ROYAL AIR FORCE**  
Eastern Radar Watton Thetford Norfolk  
Telephone Watton 881691 Ext 223

Please reply to The Officer Commanding  
Your reference  
Our reference ERD/205/1/02E  
Date 16 January 1989

Mr H Redfern  
20 Paradise Lane  
Pelsall  
WALSALL  
West Midlands  
WB3 4HH

Dear Mr Redfern

Thank you for your letter requesting further information about the UFO report on 23 December 1980.

I am afraid that we are not able to provide you with copies of our log books. However, I can offer you a verbatim statement of the only entry regarding the subject incident in the log for that period. The entry is timed at 0325 on 23 December 1980 and states:

...contacted Eastern Radar and requested information  
...southbound F1370 - UFO sightings

# REVEALED: SECRET

## CASE HISTORY No 1: The British Roswell

SIGHTINGS of strange flying objects - later known as Foo Fighters - were reported throughout the latter part of the Second World War by both Allied and Nazi servicemen.

The reports certainly went through official channels.

American journalist Dorothy Kilgallen was told by "a British official of Cabinet rank" about a Foo Fighter which had crashed in Britain - a case similar to the famous Roswell incident in New Mexico 50 years ago when alien corpses were recovered.

Kilgallen was told: "British scientists and airmen examined the wreck of one mysterious flying ship and are convinced these strange aerial objects are not optical illusions or Soviet inventions but are flying saucers which originate on another planet."

Retired diplomat and intelligence officer Gordon Creighton said he believed Kilgallen's source was Lord Louis Mountbatten.

Kilgallen's story was backed up by Dr Olavo Fontes, a

Brazilian UFO researcher of the 1950s.

In 1958, Fontes - already known to Brazil's government - was visited by two men who said they were from Naval Intelligence.

Fontes claimed that, after initially trying to persuade him to give up his work, the officers revealed that six UFOs had crashed throughout the world during the Second World War.

Three were in North America, one in the Sahara Desert, one in Scandinavia - and one in Britain.

Fontes wrote in a letter to the Aerial Phenomena Research Organisation: "I was told all these discs were small craft - 32, 77 or 99ft in diameter. In all of them were found crew members' bodies."

"They were 'little men' and ranged in height from 32 to 46in. They were dead in all cases, killed in the crashes."

"The examination of the bodies showed they were definitely humanoid, but obviously not from this planet."

## CASE HISTORY No 2: Penkridge, Staffs, 1964

SPECIAL snatch teams appear to be on stand-by, ready to go into action to retrieve wreckage from UFO crashes.

Just before he died in 1994, retired US Air Force intelligence officer Leonard Stringfield told Redfern: "Some time in 1964, a specially-rigged naval flagship received a coded radio message."

"Artefacts had been recovered with three dead personnel."

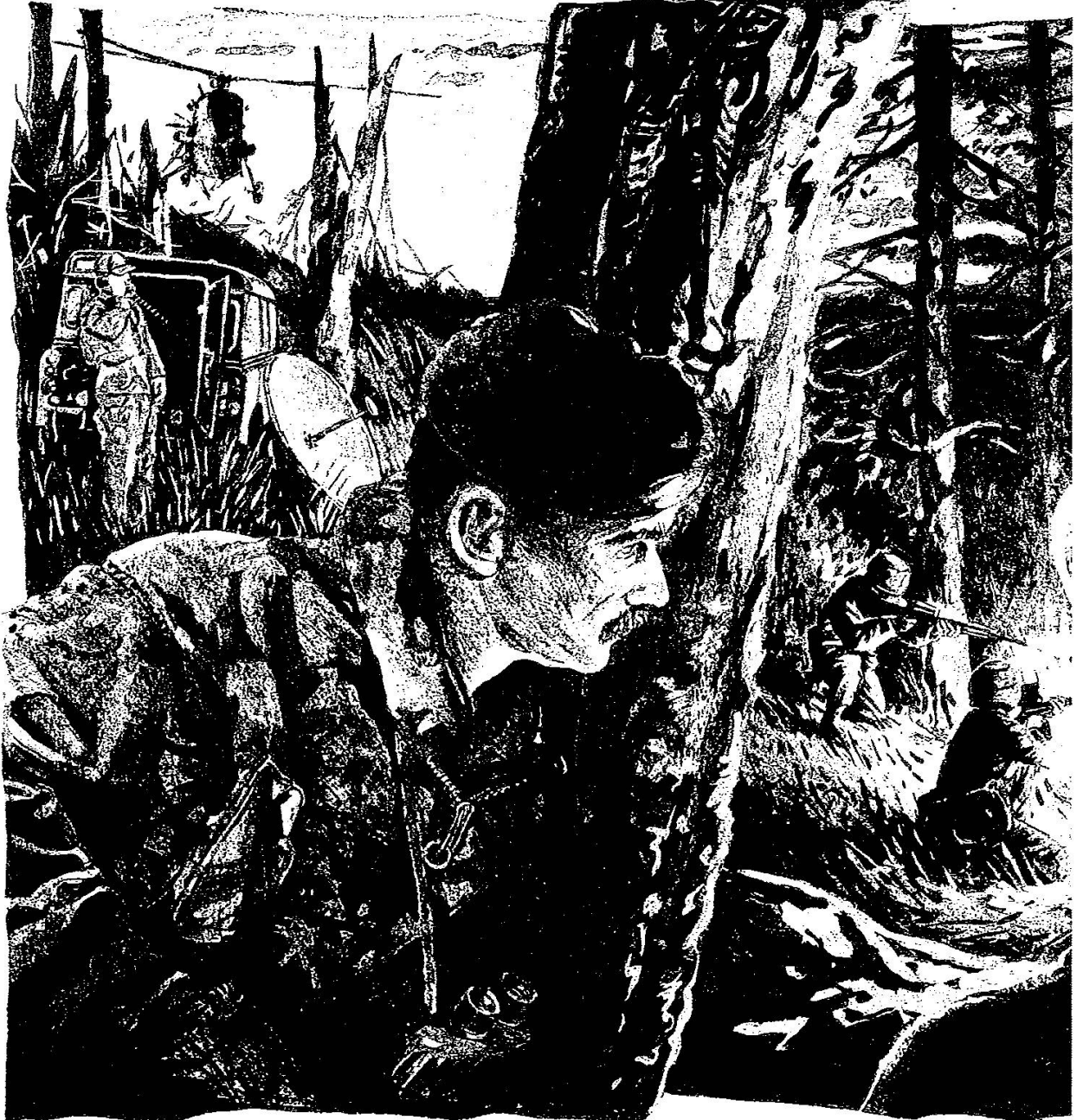
According to his informant, the decoded report stated that a UFO had crashed in two parts: the main section was in Penkridge, Staffordshire, the remainder in West Germany.

Wreckage and the bodies were shipped to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in the States.

The informant added that there was more to the incident, involving coded information, that he preferred to keep confidential.

Redfern said: "The disclosure, while sketchy, may spotlight only the tip of the iceberg as to the scope of military crash-retrieval operations in foreign lands."

"It is my suspicion that US special retrieval teams have been, and still are, prepared to go into action into any crash location within its sphere of military or economic influence such as was exercised with NATO in the artefact retrievals in England and West Germany."



## CASE HISTORY No 3: Corwen, North Wales, 1974

A WAVE of phantom helicopters - black with no identifying markings - were sighted in areas of Britain where UFOs were reported in 1973-74.

They were probably rapid deployment teams sent to investigate UFOs, according to Redfern.

One such event happened at 8.30pm on January 23, 1974. A UFO crashed into Cader Bronwen, a 2,000ft peak in the Berwyn Mountains near Corwen, North Wales.

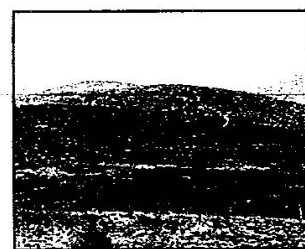
One witness, Anne Williams, said: "I saw a bright light in the sky. It had a long, fiery tail which went dim and then very brilliant - like an electric fire which keeps coming to life."

"It was like an electric bulb in shape, with rough edges. The object fell behind the hills at the back of my bungalow and the earth shook."

Off-duty police officer Gwilym Owen was drinking in The Dudley Arms pub when there was a roar, a bang and glasses in the pub shook. The sky was lit up over the mountains.

Police stations as far away as 60 miles received phone calls reporting the tremor.

At the Institute Of Geological Sciences in Edinburgh, the crash measured four on the Richter



Scale. They told journalists that a meteorite had come down on Cader Bronwen.

Witness Ken Houghton saw a "luminous sphere" 90 minutes after the crash in the area. He said the sphere was 400ft across and travelling at a height of about 15,000ft.

Army personnel were quickly dispatched to the scene.

The next day, a mountain rescue team went to investigate, while the RAF carried out a photographic survey of the area. No trace of a craft or any meteorite was found.

"One can only assume," said Redfern, "that unless the UFO exited on its own volition, it was removed by the Army."

Yet another UFO was seen in the area at 7.15pm that day.

"I believe it may have been searching for the remains of the vehicle which struck the Berwyn mountains," said Redfern.

## CASE HISTORY No 4: Lake District, 1977

A UFO which was sighted over the Lake District wasn't witnessed by just members of the public - 10 police officers saw this extraordinary sight too.

Shortly after midnight on August 28, 1977, a large object described either as triangular or diamond-shaped was seen over the Windermere area of Cumbria.

As officers reported seeing the craft, colleagues along the UFO's path also confirmed the sighting. After 20 minutes, as the ship hovered above the A592 at Bowness, PC David Wild spotted it at a height he estimated to be 1,500ft. It eventually vanished, witnessed by two other officers, at sea over Morecambe.

The most detailed description was given by John Platt. He said: "I was looking up into what appeared to be a giant ocean-going catamaran with twin hulls."

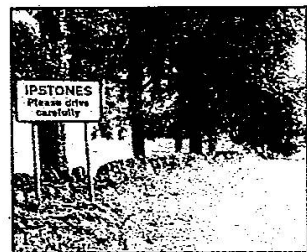
"A large structure at the front supported what appeared to be two giant lights. Its surface was a dull, shadowy, charcoal colour."

## CASE HISTORY No 5: Ipstones, Staffs, 1991

A WITNESS known only as Mr M L was visiting friends in the Churnet Valley, Staffs, on July 19, 1991, when he saw an object fall from the sky at nearby Ipstones.

The time was 10pm. M L described the object as metallic - like aluminium - 10ft long, cigar-shaped and very bright. He immediately contacted police.

They searched the woodland. A helicopter was used as well. No object was located but an area of newly-broken branches was found which gave the



impression that something had crashed through the trees from above. The search was eventually abandoned.

## CASE HISTORY No 7: He

VILLAGERS in the Cotswolds reported seeing a barrel shaped craft fall into an isolated field on the evening of Halloween in 1994.

But they were later told it was a bale of straw.

The incident happened at Hepton Hill in Wiltshire near the villages of Church Lench and Norton.

The strange object was described by one witness Pat Brooke as resembling a 40-gallon drum.

Police sealed off the field and people were warned to kee

## CASE HISTORY No 6: RAF Boscombe Down, 1994

A SMALL twin-tailed aircraft crash-landed on the runway at RAF Boscombe Down, on Salisbury Plain four miles from Stonehenge, at about 11pm on September 26, 1994.

Several aviation enthusiasts listening on airband radios drove to the air base the next day. They were stopped by police at roadblocks.

Before being ushered away, several enthusiasts saw a disabled craft at the end of the runway covered by tarpaulins.

Two days later, the wreck was flown to a California military base. Although the craft was initially believed to be a then-secret US military plane known as TR-3A, one witness said the crashed craft was completely silent and was able to hover vertically - abilities the TR-3A didn't possess.

A month before the crash, a lorry driver reported seeing a UFO over Salisbury. Its description matched that of the crashed craft.

## CASE HISTORY No 8: Ec

BUS driver Bob Fall was driving the 123 bus from Walthamstow to Tottenham when he had a narrow escape with a UFO.

He told a reporter: "I glanced into the sky and saw something coming towards me very, very fast. It flew straight across the road and, had I been a few yards further, it would have hit the top deck of the bus."

"There was a loud crash as it struck the bank of the River Lea and a big splash in the water."

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**Hill, Wilts, 1994**



way. The object was loaded on a Royal Navy lorry and taken away. Residents raised the matter

**London, 1964**

The craft was at least 9ft long, cigar-shaped and silver." As soon as Fall reported the incident, police arrived and dredged the river – but the object ad vanished.

An MoD wing-commander /as appraised of the details of Fall's encounter – implying that he MoD took his initial report seriously.

The MoD files available now re scant and Redfern believes he full story is buried somewhere in Whitehall.

with both the Fleet Air Arm and the RAF, each of whom later denied any knowledge of the incident.

A police spokesman said: "Our investigations reveal it was a bale of straw that was on fire and which the fire brigade put out.

"Reports of something falling from the sky are either hoaxes or somebody has said something and come to the wrong conclusion."

Brooke replied: "What do the police think – that we are all mad around here?"

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## Secret base's cover is blown

UFO enthusiasts have long believed that highly-classified investigations into UFO activity take place at Rudloe Manor in Wiltshire.

Redfern offers proof. It is officially acknowledged that Rudloe Manor is the headquarters of the RAF's Provost and Security Services (P&SS), where investigators are trained in counter-intelligence.

But Rudloe Manor is also the base of the Flying Complaints Flight, which investigates cases of low-flying military aircraft.

A former special RAF investigator said: "I'm sure that all investigations into UFOs are carried out by P&SS investigators serving in a small secret unit with Flying Complaints Flight."

A report of one sighting in 1962, in Taunton, Somerset, was forwarded by the RAF straight to P&SS.

The report was not forwarded to the Air Ministry

for nearly two months. Redfern said: "Given that department S6 at the Air Ministry was supposedly the focal point for receiving UFO reports, it seems odd that P&SS would neglect to inform S6 of the details for almost two months.

"Unless, as seems to be the case, P&SS have a mandate to conduct their own independent inquiries."

A letter received by Redfern written by Air Commodore J L Uprichard, the P&SS director, confirms that they have investigated UFO sightings.

He wrote: "The 1962 report is a rare example of an alleged UFO sighting being treated as a low-flying incident and investigated accordingly."

Redfern said: "The importance of this letter cannot be over-emphasised. Although such investigations are rare, this is documented proof from the director of

P&SS himself that UFO encounters have been treated as low-flying incidents."

Retired RAF medic Jonathan Turner told Redfern: "UFO sightings by military pilots were never recorded in their flight logs.

"The station commander would be advised of the situation and, from there, all information would be forwarded to P&SS.

"If national security was considered an issue, the pilots and crews would be advised to keep quiet and reminded they were bound by the Official Secrets Act."

The Ministry of Defence has admitted P&SS involvement in UFO sightings. A spokesman said: "Rudloe Manor is the headquarters of RAF Police.

"In the past it was indeed the RAF co-ordination point for reports of unexplained aerial sightings. This role came to an end in 1992."

## How they tried to hush it up

AN alarming number of UFOs were sighted around military bases in 1957.

One sighting at RAF West Freugh, Wigtownshire, was published by several newspapers.

A secret Air Ministry report declassified after 30 years, reads: "It is unfortunate that the Wigtownshire radar incident fell into the hands of the Press.

"We suggest that the Secretary of State does not specifically refer to these incidents as sightings on radar."

Six years later, after another batch of sightings, the Air Ministry tried to dampen speculation but they failed to point out that many reports were by RAF pilots and radar operators.

One of the most controversial sightings took place in Belfast eight years ago. The following is an extract from a report in official Civil Aviation Authority files about an incident on November 11, 1989.

"UFO passed above aircraft at 11,200ft and burst into a cascade of lights. Heading due west. Proximity of cloud intensified brightness of light. Sighting confirmed by another aircraft and tower."

53

Let's hope  
+  
were there

Oh how I'd have  
loved to be there!!

# The police are out there

TO those eavesdropping on the police radio messages, it sounded like something out of The X-Files.

Officers had requested assistance at a remote beauty spot where a UFO was apparently preparing to land.

Reinforcements were being ordered to the field after a patrol car had confirmed sightings of strange bright lights descending from the clouds.

'It's amazing, they're different colours, swirling . . . I've never seen this before. They're getting closer,' the patrolman said.

Within minutes, 15 cars full of police radio eavesdroppers and UFO seekers were speeding

through the night, wanting to know if the truth really was out there.

The rotating blue, orange, red and yellow lights grew brighter as they drove up the winding road towards the final bend at Butts Brown on the South Downs in East Sussex.

But there were no little green men or men in black waiting for them - just the boys in blue, who had concocted an elaborate hoax.

Officers searched their cars and confiscated scanning equipment used to listen in on police frequencies, while overhead, bright lights continued to hover as officers aimed their halogen lamps at the sky in an attempt to fool more

people who had been scanning the airwaves.

UFO enthusiasts, alerted by citizens' band radio and not the police radio, were told to leave. Others were given a warning.

Inspector Martin Stevens, of Eastbourne police, said many of those tricked by the false alert, last March, were too stunned to speak. 'They couldn't believe they'd been set up.'

Equipment belonging to two scanners was confiscated and destroyed, but the real value of the operation was the warning it sent to others, said Mr Stevens.

'Police need to keep radio conversations secret. Scanning is a serious matter and illegal.'

## Scanners scam

Police put out hoax messages about aliens over the South Downs to trap people illegally tuning in to police radio frequencies. When carloads of people turned up to see the extraterrestrials, officers confiscated scanning equipment and warned against its use.

Times 13/9/97

The People  
17 August 1997  
Page 13

# Riddle of the Black Triangle

AN Independence Day-style UFO has been spotted hovering menacingly over a British city.

The dark triangle-shaped craft was completely motionless before racing away.

Many reports have described the colossal craft as at least twice the size of a jumbo jet and possibly 500 yards wide — like the UFO which hovered over Washington in the hit Will Smith Hollywood film Independence Day.

The craft, nicknamed the "Black Triangle", has been appearing for months in the Lancaster area.

Sometimes it emits three blinding flashes of white light from each corner.

It flies frequently over nuclear plants at Heysham and Sellafield. Some UFO experts think it may be a new war-

By FIONA MAY

plane being developed by British Aerospace at Warton, Lancs.

There have been reports of a triangle-shaped British equivalent of the US Stealth Fighter known as HALO — the High Altitude Low Observability aircraft.

But a BAe spokesman denied there was a HALO project and said the only test aircraft being flown in the Lancaster area was the 1,300mph Eurofighter.

He added: "Viewed from underneath it does look triangle-shaped — perhaps that is where the reports stem from."

But Simon Lewis, of the North Lancashire UFO Investigation Group who has pictures of the craft, said: "I would not like to say for sure it is extra-terrestrial but that has to be a possibility."

6415.  
Daily Telegraph  
17 August 1997  
Page 6  
Business

52

■ DIRECTORS at GKN, the engineering and automotive group, no doubt cringed last week when the National Audit Office published its report on problems with the country's defence procurement programme, including delays in the delivery of the its own Westland Merlin helicopter. But all this is a diversion from a growing order book at Westland and GKN's strong performance across its range of businesses. The recent bullish results have sent the shares upwards to £12.65 but the group still trades at a small discount to the sector. GKN has demonstrated an impressive ability to avoid the worst ravages of the strong pound and under CK Chow, the new chief executive, there are plans for expansion and the mood is upbeat.

The Observer  
17 August 1997  
Page 19

## Fury at 'sell-out' on jets for Jakarta

A FURIOUS parliamentary row has erupted over Ministers' refusal to answer further questions on the controversy over Britain's sale of 16 Hawk jets to Indonesia, writes Patrick Wintour.

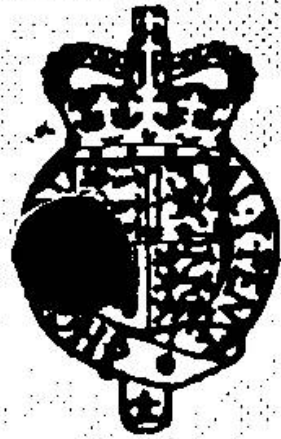
The Government claims commercial confidentiality over the £160 million deal, and says further disclosures can only be given with the agreement of British Aerospace, which makes the Hawk. Opponents of the deal are furious about the refusal. They say the jets, earmarked for training pilots, will be fitted with ground attack

weapons to suppress rebels in East Timor.

Labour backbencher Ann Clywd, writing in *Tribune*, says Foreign Secretary Robin Cook has failed in the first test of his new ethical foreign policy. 'He has done what he had constantly criticised the previous government for doing by refusing to make a statement on the floor of the Commons so that some of the 148 Labour MPs who had signed a Commons motion calling for an end to arms sales to Indonesia could question him over his apparent volte-face.'

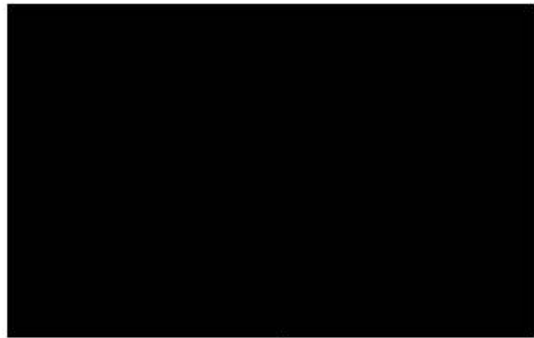
There is special anger because suspicions have been raised at the way in which the Department of Trade and Industry announced in a written answer on 11 July that — contrary to earlier information given to Parliament — export licences had, in fact, already been granted by the previous government. Previously Parliament had been told — incorrectly — that this was not the case.

Left-wing Labour MPs are suspicious that Ministers are being misled by officials eager to protect valuable defence contracts.

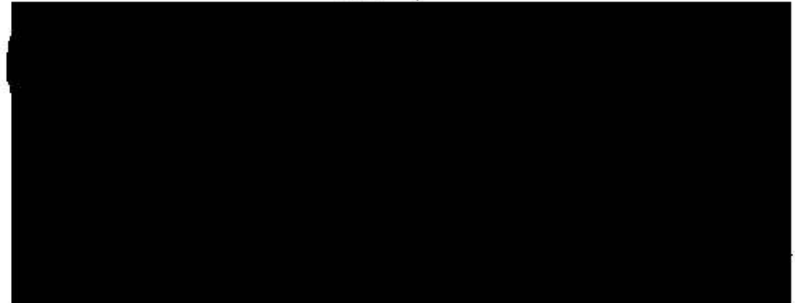


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ISSUE 16 SEPTEMBER 1997

# UFO

## COVER-UP EXPOSED



### UFO investigator nets the Ministry of Defence in a web of deceit

### Aliens Terrorise Ramblers

Ex-policeman photographs alien being whilst out for a stroll on Wey Moor



...servation were plotting objects before

...oes were In fact they



### Tadpoles In Space

Are biological beings drifting through the galaxy?

D.D.I. 51/0/3/

Freugh

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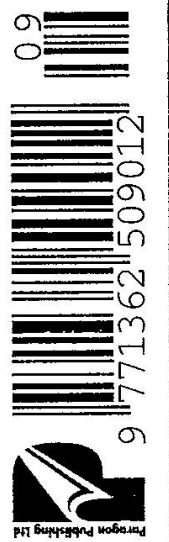
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ALIEN ENCOUNTERS • September 1997

# Editorial

## Big Brother's Watching You...

This issue hits the shelves at a time when conspiracy theorists the world over are jumping up and down shouting, "We told you so! We're not just paranoid! The government really is hiding the truth about UFOs! Read it for yourself!" And read all about it you can, here in the one and only ALIEN ENCOUNTERS.

Our leading article this month focuses on the desperate (but not very successful) attempts by the MoD to deny all involvement in UFO investigations. Luckily from our point of view, persistent pressure from our intrepid investigator has resulted in the MoD being trapped quite neatly in its own web of lies. Turn to page 16 for a more in-depth report.

Recent news suggests that it's not just the British Government making anti-UFO noises, but the Americans as well. A newly declassified CIA document goes to great lengths to prove that reported UFO sightings were in fact merely American military spy planes such as the SR71 Blackbird and the Lockheed U2A. Ufologists have naturally risen up in arms over the publication, convinced that it is merely a ploy to discredit real UFO sightings

and bury links between the CIA and UFOs. They do have a point - if the CIA were innocent, why bother going to such lengths to prove their point?

Sticking with the factual side of ufology, we've also got a smashing article written by Australian anti-gravity engineer, Ted Roach. Roach explains the science behind anti-gravity powered flying vehicles, proving that the technology to build these craft is firmly in our grasp. The ramifications of this discovery are huge - imagine the sudden worthlessness of fuel-powered aircraft, resulting in a new independence from fossil fuels.

Topics like this should really be public knowledge, yet they are consistently ignored by the media at large. It seems that George Orwell's fictional Big Brother scenario is rapidly becoming fact.

It only remains for ALIEN ENCOUNTERS to rise above these political silences, and attempt to inform as many members of the public as possible.

We haven't been silenced by the powers that be as yet, and hopefully we never will.

**Nina Pendred, Editor**





the mod and ufos

# The Military X Files

D.D.I. (Tech) / C.290/3

## Unidentified Objects at West Freugh

On the morning of April 4th radar operators at West Freugh detected unidentified objects on the screens of their radars. A summary of this incident is given below.

The object was first observed as a stationary return on the morning radar at Balacalloch. Although its range remained appreciably constant for about 10 minutes its height altered from about 50,000 ft to 10,000 ft. A second radar was switched on and detected the object at this range and height.

The radar sets used were capable of following objects automatically and being manually operated. The information is obtained in the form of range and height. This information can be converted to give plan position and height. The position of the object by means of an electronic display on a screen is shown on a sector.

**Do we now have proof of a military UFO cover-up? Matthew Williams has managed to get the Ministry of Defence to unwittingly admit that they knew the whereabouts of UFO files which were previously listed as missing.**

**T**he following information may to the uninitiated seem complex or trivial so it must be clearly pointed out that the reasons for providing this information are simple. The MoD states that there is no cover-up over UFO information and also that there have been no secret or covert departments investigating UFOs.

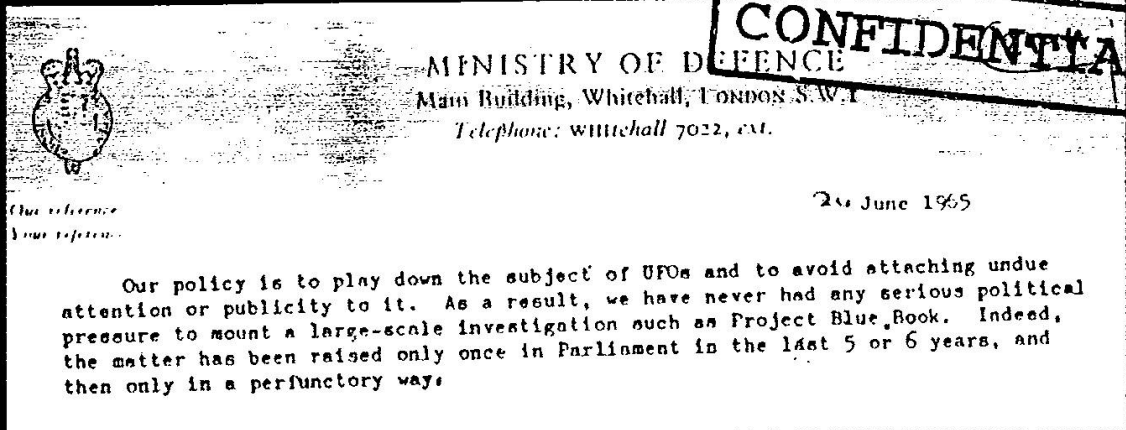
This we have managed to disprove along with uncovering a policy of downplaying the UFO subject. The story gets even more interesting when you learn that, after we found out these facts in a MoD file, the MoD removed the incriminating file from public view. This file implicated Provost & Security Services (based at RAF Rudloe Manor), which is a department that I have been researching for some years, and I believe has been investigating the UFO phenomena - a point which they deny.

I have supplied snippets from the original government documents which back up the claims we are making. If anyone wishes to get hold of copies of the original documents they can do so by visiting the Public Records Office in Kew, London where the files can be booked out and photocopied.

**The Thirty-Year Rule**

File number AIR 2/16918 provides the best evidence to show that in the 1960's there were no fewer than seven secret government departments within the Ministry of Defence that were investigating UFOs.

Former UFO public office investigator Nick Pope claimed that in his experience there were no other departments



investigating UFOs. We have a problem with this statement in light of new files which show otherwise. Could it be that Nick Pope, in his low ranking position of Executive Officer (an entry level grade), was not aware of these departments, or is he simply covering them up?

When questioned, Nick Pope assured me that he did not know of these departments when he was working in the MoD and had no dealings with them.

When researching UFO files you encounter the thirty-year rule problem. This means that any information which is released through official channels is subject to a thirty-year filing rule (sometimes longer). Meaning that by the time the files reach the general public, the departments which dealt with the information have probably closed down or had their names changed, so we cannot find out their current status, check their records, or even make complaints.

The departments clearly named within the file have no other documentation or references within the Public Records Office. Consequently we suspect that this file was probably not meant to reach the Public Records Office. Are we going a bit far in stating this? Perhaps not when you learn that after researchers exposed the file it was then removed from view at the Public Records Office and only returned after questions were raised in the House Of Commons by the Rt Hon Ieuan Wyn Jones, MP for Anglesey North.

Above A letter from the MoD stating that they have never undertaken serious investigations into the UFO phenomenon.

**File 1**

Project Blue Book was the USAF public project designed to investigate UFOs through the use of air force resources. The project leader, Dr. Allen Hynek, left Blue Book in disgust claiming that the best and most unexplained records were kept away from the Blue Book files.

Subsequently, Hynek stated that the conclusions of the report - which were that most sightings could be explained and that no evidence of extraterrestrial life could be determined - was at the very best a cover-up of the highest order (there were secret level investigations going on behind Project Blue Book which we now know of as Projects Sign and Grudge).

In an MoD letter, written to Project Blue Book, it was stated that UFO investigations were carried out as part of the MoD Air Force Technical Intelligence Department.

Obviously the MoD, whilst writing to another Military unit, were prepared to admit their UFO investigations to a high level agency, but at this point they would not admit to it publicly. This then shows that investigations went on at a higher level than those of Airstaff 2a, the former office of Nick Pope.

The MoD admit to a policy of playing down the subject of UFOs. In doing this they avoid public or political pressure to mount a large scale - probably public - investigation on UFOs. It is not the military's right to make decisions that will affect politics. The military are supposed to be under the control of government and not be in a position to dictate parliamentary policy.

**File 2**

Nick Pope was asked directly about Provost and Security Service and RAF Rudloe Manor's involvement in UFO investigations.

He denied any knowledge of these facts although he was in office at a time when Gerry Philpott (Nick Pope's successor) alleges that they sent reports to him. Work out!

For heaven's sake!  
Rt Hon!

# feature the mod and ufos

A full letter that I have provided for this article shows that Provost & Security Services were investigating UFOs and that the file was classified as Confidential (a little hard to see on the photocopy).

We also see that the MoD sent out officers to interview witnesses, perhaps giving rise to certain cases of Men in Black or Men from the Ministry, which have been reported over the years. The MoD have denied that they ever sent out officers to visit witnesses. Nick Pope, in his book *Open Skies Closed Minds*, very firmly states the opinion that no MoD officers went out to visit witnesses. He believes that these MIB were just oddball 'Walter Mitty' characters who dressed up to scare witnesses and were nothing at all to do with the MoD.

In fact this letter gives the name of the officer who went out to interview the witness, and page 7 of the report (which is not included in this file) goes even further into the fact that officers visited her on a few occasions. The witness, Mrs Ann Hepson, has now been visited by UFO researchers who confirmed that she was advised by the MoD to not talk about her sighting to the press or public and not to discuss the MoD investigation. She kept silent for 60 years before she was contacted by researchers. My question is how many witnesses have been advised not to talk by the MoD in this fashion?

Provost and Security Service is the department which has been rumoured for many years as being involved in UFO investigations and was first exposed in such a way in Timothy Good's book *Above Top Secret*. I featured my investigations into Rudloe Manor in *ALIEN ENCOUNTERS #10*, and it is now clear the importance of this and other departments in the whole UFO investigations network.

Provost & Security Services are based at RAF Rudloe Manor. Another interesting feature about RAF Rudloe Manor is that most of its facilities are housed underground in 35 miles of labyrinthine tunnels. I have never heard any rumours of aliens working down there, just a lot of intelligence work and war time control operations.

*Provost Security Services rumoured to have been involved with UFO investigations for many years.*

## The Ex-File

The confirmed departments involved in UFO investigation that we know of in the 1960's are:

- AMOC (Air Ministries Operations Centre)
- AIS (Air Information Service)
- AI(Tech)4a (Air Intelligence Technical 4a)
- AI(Tech)5b (Air Intelligence Technical 5b)
- AI1 (Air Intelligence 1)
- DSTI (Department of Scientific and Technical Intelligence)
- DDI-Tech (Department of Defence Intelligence Technical)

Public departments investigating UFOs, who were in fact simply letter writers. Fronting these other departments are DS8, Air Staff 2 and S6.

The CAA (Civil Aviation Authority) has also conducted investigations of the UFO phenomenon, one of their more recent cases involved a near miss between a UFO and a jetliner which was making its final approach into Manchester airport.

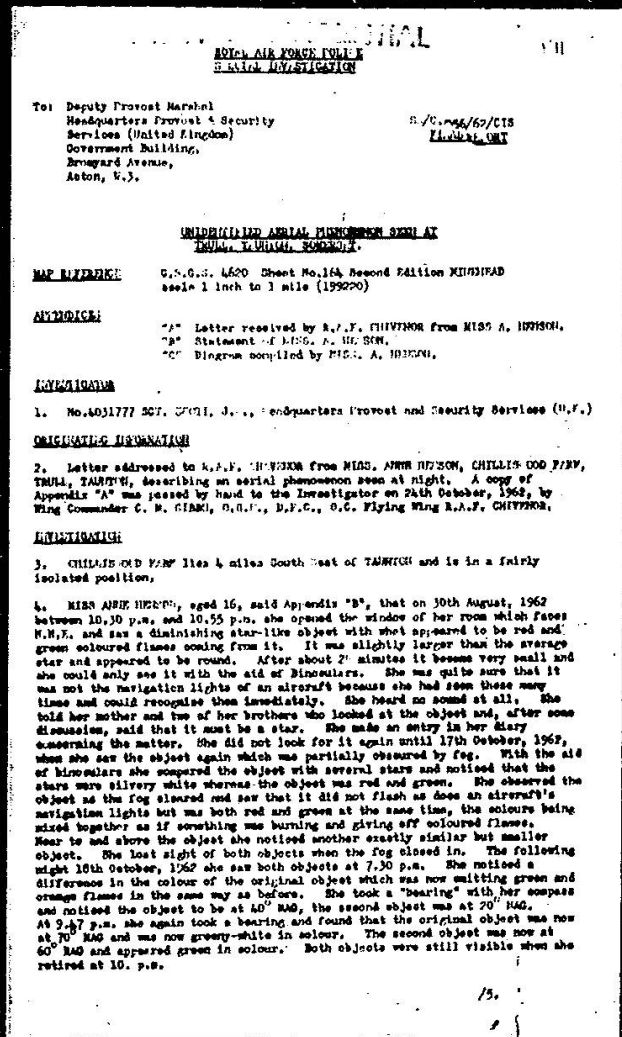
Extra departments rumoured to be investigating UFOs include D155 and DI64.

The files which were used for the basis of these investigations are as follows:

- AIR 2/16918, AIR 16/1199, AIR 2/17318, AIR 20/7390, AIR 20/9320, AIR 20/9321, AIR 20/9322, AIR 20/9994, AIR 2/17318, AIR 2/17526, AIR 2/17527, AIR 2/17982, AIR 2/17983, PREM 11/855.

## Of Defence Significance

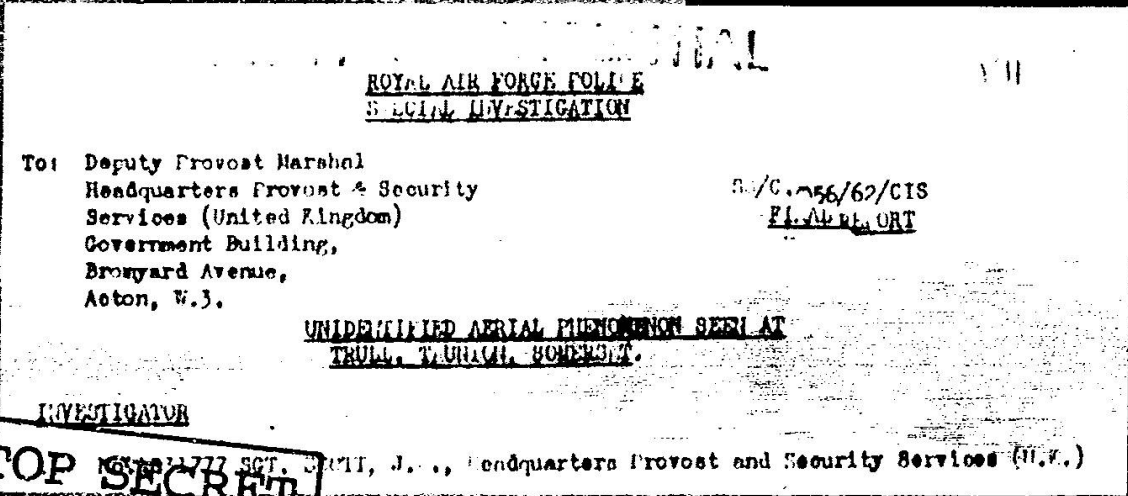
We know from statements made to us by serving officers, former serving officers and officials inside the MoD, that many files exist which have never been released to the public. We also know from Lord Peter Hill



Norton, Commander of the Fleet (the MoD's highest rank), that in his opinion there is a cover-up and UFOs are of defence significance. He states that films and evidence of UFOs are being withheld by the MoD.

An MoD ruling from 1967 meant that all UFO reports would be preserved in the Public Records Office for public viewing, because of the renewed interest in the subject. However, if the seven secret MoD departments were investigating UFOs back then, where are the department files relating to this? No files are available or due to be released for these departments. It is as if they didn't exist and efforts to find out if these departments moved on to have new names have proved fruitless as this information is deemed sensitive and cannot be given out to the public.

We know that documents exist which have not been released to the UK public because these documents have been copied to the US Government and have been released to US citizens under the American



TOP SECRET

Freedom of Information Act. This release circumvented UK secrecy laws. Some of these documents show that UFO incidents have taken place on UK soil, involving American airbases.

We also know that some of these bases have had overflights of UFOs, which subsequently interfered and rendered some of the nuclear weapons stored on the base inoperable, eg the 1980

Woodbridge/Bentwaters incidents. The mere fact that these weapons were stored in a US airbase on British soil is still classified top-secret. (Proof of the nuclear aspect of this case is available in a new book *Left At East Gate* published by Michael O'Mara books.)

I have secured my own evidence of the nuclear aspect at Bentwaters, by secretly visiting the site with a team of UFO investigators, including Richard Conway and two original witnesses. We visited the nuclear bunkers and will be releasing this proof soon.

### An Unacceptable Situation

Readers should take note that the proposals for a UK Freedom of Information act clearly state the MoD need not take part (although it is my understanding that some MoD departments feel that they may be included anyway).

I feel that this is an unacceptable situation and would personally only support a government and military-wide Freedom of Information act.

When the MoD have been questioned on the subject of UFOs they have given a statement that they are of 'No Defence Significance'. Clearly the files did show that UFOs were of defence significance otherwise they would not be investigating them at such a high level.

What we have here is clear evidence of the Ministry of Defence being involved in playing down and covering up UFO sightings. UFO reports were classified as secret, and the details probably were not meant to be released to the public. Procedures were put in place to allow the secret departments to lie to the public

about conclusions of their investigations, through the front of the Whitehall civil servant departments.

We also know that the enormity of the sightings that were being reported back then show that UFOs were of an extreme defence significance. Lastly, we now know that the MoD were sending out officers to interview witnesses and these self same officers were trying to silence witnesses. It all fits together nicely.

What we now need to know is where did these departments go and where do they operate from today. We also need to know where all of the investigation files, from the many years of UFO research, are now. We are preparing to find these departments, ask them for their files, and bring you further updates from any information we gather.

**Lord Peter Hill Norton states that films and evidence of UFOs are being withheld by the MoD.**

*Below: Hasn't the time now come for the MoD to fully disclose its investigations into UFOs?*



*Your reference  
Your reply:*

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
Main Building, Whitehall, LONDON S.W.1  
Telephone: Whitehall 7022, ext.

24 June 1965

Mr Langton has shown us your letter of the 15th June about Project Blue Book.

In the United Kingdom, the Air Force Department of the Ministry of Defence has the primary responsibility for investigating reports of UFOs, and the reasons for this allocation of responsibility are exactly the same as in your case.

We investigate every case reported to us, and we use every assistance, civilian as well as military, available to us to identify a particular object. For example, we have frequently used the resources of Kodak Ltd., to examine photographs, films and equipment submitted to us. We do not, however maintain a special scientific staff for this purpose. It is normally handled as part of the routine work of our Air Force Technical Intelligence department. Unlike you, however, we do investigate single-observer sightings. Our results over the years are in line with yours viz. in some 90% of cases investigated, we are able to make a positive, rational identification, in 10% we are unable to do so because of insufficient data, and in no case have we unearthed any evidence of extra-terrestrial origin.

Our policy is to play down the subject of UFOs and to avoid attaching undue attention or publicity to it. As a result, we have never had any serious political pressure to mount a large-scale investigation such as Project Blue Book. Indeed, the matter has been raised only once in Parliament in the last 5 or 6 years, and then only in a perfunctory way.

The specific answers to your questions are as follows:-

- a. No
- b. No
- c. Yes, a considerable number
- d. We investigate about 70 cases a year but there are others which are not reported to us, although sometimes reported in the newspapers.

We should be delighted to discuss the matter with Dr Hynek when he comes to London and no doubt you will let us know in due course when he will be here.

Lieutenant Colonel John F. Spaulding,  
Civil Branch,  
Community Relations Division,  
Office of Information,  
Department of the Air Force,  
Washington DC  
U.S.A.

Learn the mod and ufos

# File 3

## The Missing File

The file which contained so many revelations about departments in the MoD investigating UFOs went missing after Nick Redfern was filmed for a documentary called *Out Of This World*, around March 1995. The official explanation for the missing file was that it has been 'misfiled'.

We suspected otherwise, but it took the intervention of MP Ieuan Wyn Jones, who asked a question in the House Of Commons, to bring the file back. The file was returned two days after the question being tabled, but still the excuse given was that it had been misfiled - this was after one year of looking for it and one major file search (known as a census).

In a visit to the Public Records Office in 1996, myself, Richard Conway and Chris Fowler were told by Vivian Bales that the file was probably with the MoD as they often recalled sensitive files which they may have released information in by mistake. It was her opinion that this is possibly what had happened. We did not prompt her for this explanation and she gave it to us as an unofficial comment.

I didn't buy the official missing file story so went on my own search for who might have had the file at the MoD. I used contacts I have in government to point me toward the relevant MoD department, where I might find an answer. I was given the details of a small department which is housed inside the Metropole Building in Northumberland Avenue. After speaking to the staff there I was put onto the Deputy Departmental Records Officer, Mr I D Goode.

### Official Clamp-Down

The Central Records Management checked their records and confirmed that records the file being inside the MoD in November 1996. This proved that an MP and members of the public were being lied to about the whereabouts of this file. Both the MoD and Public Records Office had assured us that they had carried out proper checks on the whereabouts of the file. However, if they had then surely they would have discovered that it was booked out to the MoD?

The final part of the saga is that an official clamp-down has come into force. We were told by the MoD that Central Records Management had made a clerical error, and that the records should have read November 1995.

One thing is now clear, we have the ammunition to fight the government over the files of these seven secret departments who files do not appear in the Public Records Office. It has even been hinted to me by one insider that if any files for these departments did exist, then they would not become public because most of these files are Defence Intelligence orientated. These types of files rarely get released, if at all!

## Other Facts

Some of the other documents available in the UFO files include radar tracking of objects by the military. One incident which occurred in West Freugh was reported to secret department (DD) radar. It describes a set of five objects, estimated to be as big as ships, which proceeded from 50,000ft to 10,000ft. A second radar was switched on and confirmed the objects at this height.

The considered expert opinion of the military was that these objects were indeed unidentified and of an unknown type and could be radar operated. The objects were all 200ft in length and 100ft in diameter. It is believed that they may have been in the form of charged clouds, etc. This is the incident.

Other incidents include similar radar tracks of objects travelling at speeds in excess of 4,000mph. These objects are under investigation.

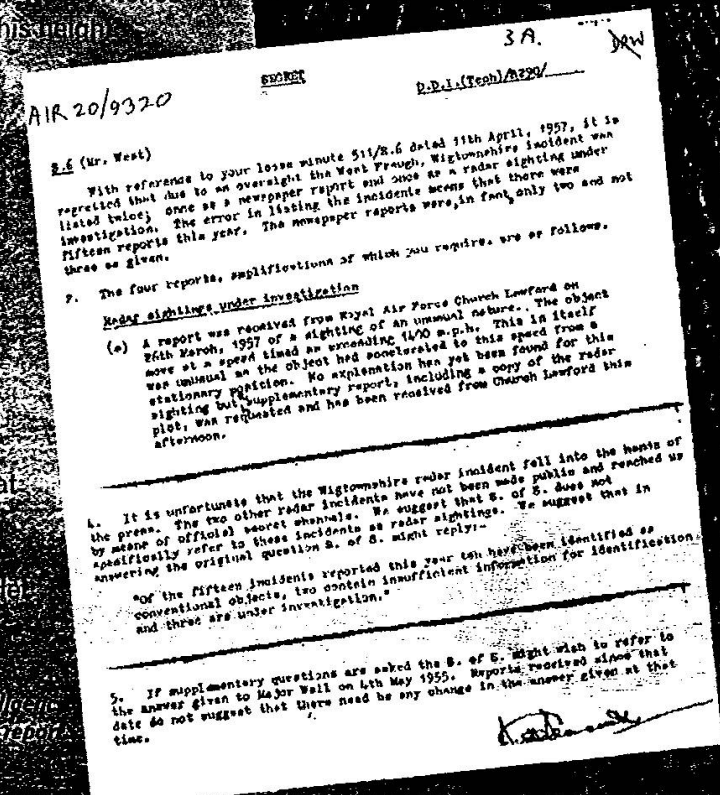
### For Your Information

Space restrictions mean that we cannot include all the papers which make up the MoD file bundle, but if anyone requires the full documents they are available for public viewing in *Truthseekers Magazine*.

For a copy, please send a cheque payable to *Truthseekers Magazine* for £2.00, and you will be sent a photocopied bundle.

Truthseekers, 25 Upper Canning Street, Ton-Pentre, Mid Glam, CF41 7HG.

Email: [truthseekers@celtic.co.uk](mailto:truthseekers@celtic.co.uk)

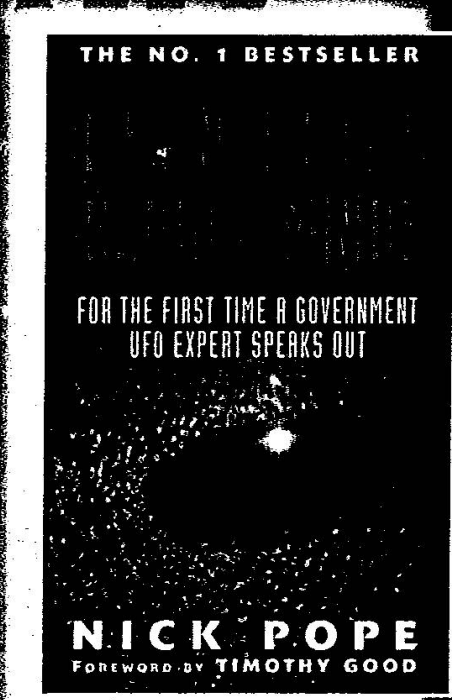


## Secret investigators would pass on recommendations to civil servants in the publicly known UFO reporting departments.

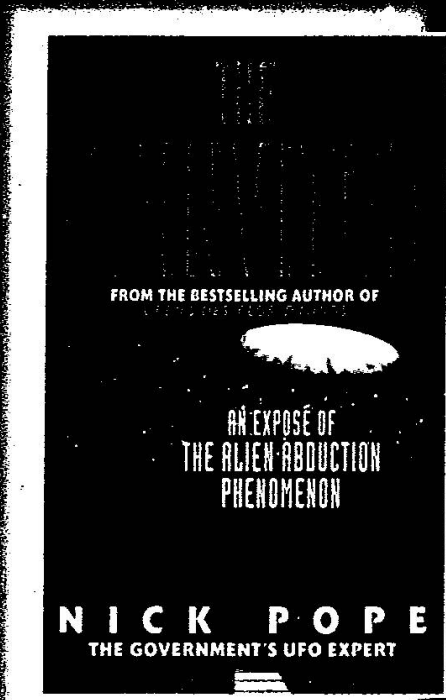
### Who Is Matthew Williams?

Matthew Williams is a former civil servant who worked for HM Customs & Excise Criminal Investigations department. Following his own UFO sighting back in 1990, Matthew now investigates the UFO enigma full-time.

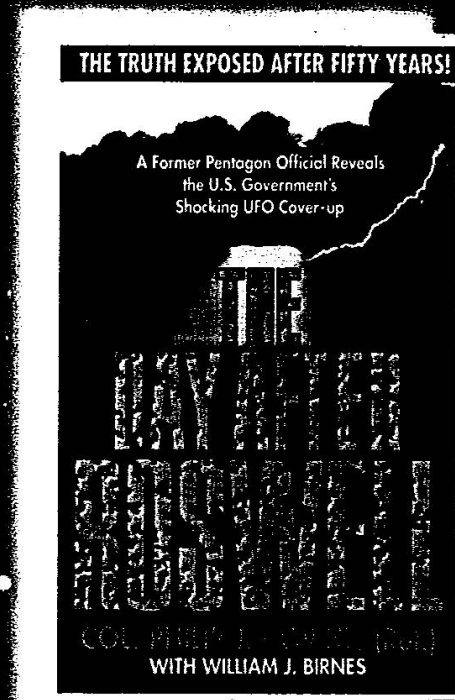
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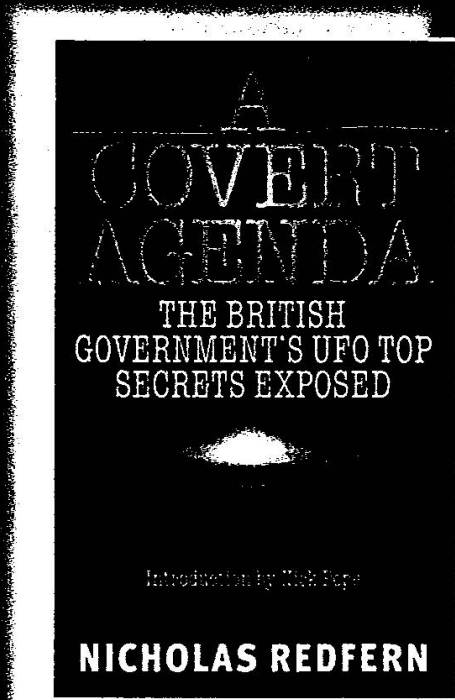
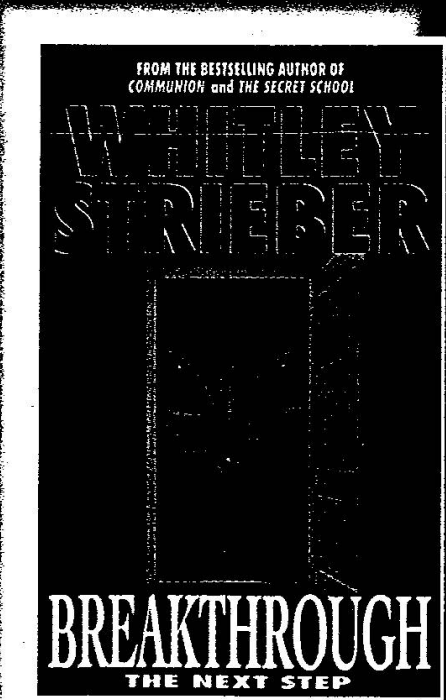
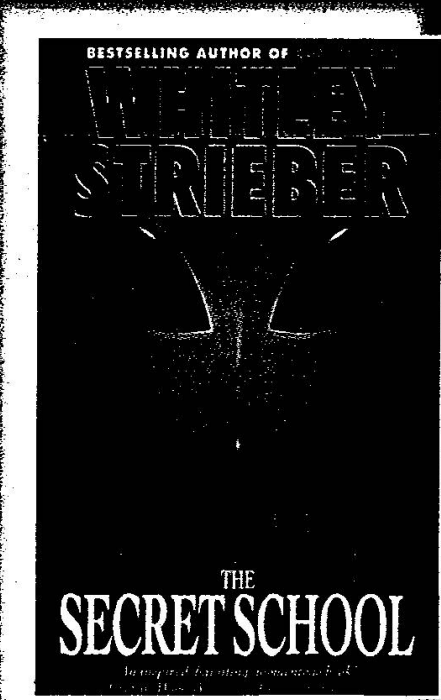


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## Reading is believing...

# Unidentified Flying Subjects

**The rational explanation for the media's obsession with the paranormal — ratings figures — doesn't explain the phenomenon, says JOHN DIAMOND**

**A**S the final hour of the final day of the millennium approaches, we can see them gathering. They are shadowy men and women clad in outlandish garments, speaking an ancient, moaning language; they are the true believers. Call them what you will — The Elect, The Faithful, The Blessed — they know each other by simpler titles; often they are the Credulous Feature Writers, occasionally the Cynically Accepting TV Producers, sometimes the Ill-Researched Prophetic Book Publishers.

They are the men and women who, as more and more becomes certain about the way the world works, contrive to convince us that we live in a random and irrational dimension, a place where any thesis, however unlikely, can be propped up with a suitably bold headline and underpinned by the petulant battle cry: "Well, you prove it's not true, then."

And these are the men and women whose influence will be discussed next week at the ICA, when the entirely rational ad agency Ogilvy and Mather and the supremely level-headed European Business News TV give out the details of futura.com — "a major study designed to explore, understand and explain changes in British society".

The leading question, according to the invitation, is a simple one: "How many people believe in flying saucers?" I'd be amazed if the answer revealed at the conference — sponsored, among others, by media organisations like Carlton Communications, Telewest and Flextech — isn't that most of us do. Just as most of us believe in horoscopes, dowsing, Nostradamus, crop circles, numerology, reflexology and that Paul McKenna's subjects don't know what they're doing when they howl like a dog.

**W**E believe these things, depending on your point of view, either because your Johnny human being is an open-minded sort of cove or because in a complicated world full of imponderables it's easier and more comforting to believe in Russell Grant's astrological certainties than in the nothingness of rationality. Science, in trying to understand everything, admits that there are things we don't yet know and may never know; it is the antiscience which is



flooding our media which says that everything not explained by science is explicable by non-science — and usually in a four-minute studio segment or across two tabloid pages of newsprint.

The traditional media defence to the charge that programmes like The World of Paul McKenna and the various fake-science series with the word "Unexplained" in the title encourage viewers not to think too carefully is that it's all just a bit of fun. The same defence, or a version of it, is used when a paper runs a serialisation of the latest prophetic best-seller which "proves" that Nostradamus got the 4.30 at Haydock Park on the nose.

And I suppose it would be a bit of fun were it not for two problems.

The first is that, for some mysterious and inexplicable reason obviously unconnected with sales, editors faced with a divine prophecy serialisation offer, or a tale of psychic derring-do, or a flying saucer story turn every journalistic principle on its head.

Phone up a newsdesk and tell them that you've witnessed a murder or a bank robbery and you'll be pumelled with the who-what-

why-when-how questions which every journalist learns on his first paper. Phone up a political correspondent with a story and regardless of his or his paper's political position, he'll phone around to get the story from both sides of the political fence.

But phone up a paper and tell them that you have a book coming out which proves that corn circles are made by visiting Venusians and your thesis will go straight into the paper all but unscathed by contact with those whose job normally is to ask inconvenient questions. Papers across the intellectual gamut routinely write about ghosts and poltergeists, spiritualists and mediums, flying saucers and spoon-benders as if there is no question but that these are genuine, if not fully understood, phenomena.

There is only one other area where newspapers are happy to run stories without subjecting them to the usual journalistic scrutiny and that's the closely related one of alternative medicine. Most editors are prone to running around blindly if they see the chance of a good scare story, but look at the coverage of BSE or Aids over the years and you'll see

the press capable of taking a reasonable amount of journalistic care to get both sides of the story.

Now turn to the health and beauty sections and see them fail to take the same journalistic care when it comes to non-orthodox medical stories. There is not a single loony-tune therapy which hasn't appeared on the middle-market health pages, or those of the consumer glossies, unnumbered by the suggestion that its case is, at best, unproven.

**I**N any other journalistic area a quote by the touter of some expensive new-age treatment would, if given house-room at all, be balanced by a quote from some expert or another who has actually done some research on the treatment. On the health pages, though, the quote passes into print untouched by doubt.

The second problem is one which more regularly concerns the TV stations which, for some years now, have been running series which purport to explain the inexplicable. Sometimes they use TV scientists — or Carol Vorderman — to do this, but as often as not the job is handed over to lay presenters like Michael Aspel.

Of course if the TV companies really wanted to explain the supposedly inexplicable they wouldn't have much of a programme, given the banal truth, which is that subjected to scientific scrutiny most mysterious phenomena are the result of hoax, lie, mistake, misunderstanding, forgetfulness, or downright trickery.

Such explanations make for tedious programming, of course. A piece on crop circles which shows that they are, every one of them, man-made isn't as gripping as one which purports to believe that there may be a mysterious explanation for them.

A bit of fun, of course. Except that, as is so often the case, one person's fun is at the expense of another — the other in this case being cash- and time-strapped serious scientific programming.

For what is most irrational of all is that just when science and technology is making most difference to our lives, and just when most of us could use some real explanations — even explanations which are sceptical of the power of science — what the media are giving us is junk science and non-science.

**Please believe me ... (clockwise from bottom left): bent spoons, dead "aliens", crop circles, flying saucers, ghosts and TV hypnotism — the media hype them all**

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