

ENCOUNTERS

UFO Silence

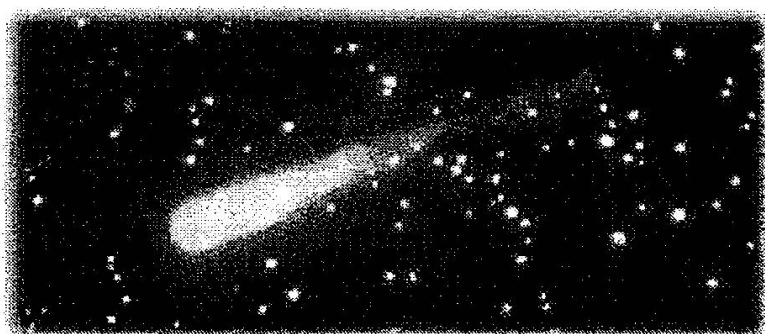
You could easily be mistaken for believing that Americans are the only ones lucky enough to be plagued by crashed saucers. Jonathon Dillon looks into Britain's UFO history and asks whether the British Government is simply more experienced at the old cover-up routine.

The British Government holds the dubious honour of being the most secretive in the First World despite promises to be more open with the public. The USA, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, France, Denmark, Holland and a host of other countries have a Freedom of Information Act, which over the last few years has enabled investigators all over the world to explore thousands of hitherto classified documents and papers which refer to the UFO subject. By these governments' own admission, thousands more documents are being withheld in the 'interests of National Security' proving without doubt, that the subject is of great interest and seriousness to the world's elected leaders.

But our own government keeps quiet about everything and the general public can only gain access to documentation released under terms of the 30, 75 or 100 year ruling. These papers flow from the Air Ministry, RAF and Ministry of Defence, and roughly amount to just a dozen already released files covering the period 1950 to 1964. Now with the arrival of the Scott Report, the need for a British Freedom of Information Act is more than evident.



Sadly, Her Majesty's Government will be amongst the last to willingly confess to the fact that our airspace is being penetrated regularly, by unusual intelligently controlled devices, that are way beyond our cutting edge technology. However, there seems to have been a turnabout on the part of the authorities in recent years, with more and more credible military personnel, government officials and people in power coming forward to tell of their UFO experiences. Through the hard work of many UFO investigators across the country, it has been disclosed that several Ministry of Defence departments at Whitehall and the Armed Services have been, and continue to be, actively engaged in covert research into UFOs.



According to several informers, investigations have been carried out by the Royal Air Force, The Defence Intelligence Staff (DI55) and the Directorate of Scientific and Technical Intelligence. The DIS in particular, is a mixed organisation of serving officers and civilian research staff, scientific staff and linguists headed by the Chief of Defence Intelligence (CDI). This essential element of the government's central intelligence machinery has several tasks to

perform and it evaluates a range of studies. One of its most important duties is to concentrate on UFO reports. Basically, some reports are handled by the Provost and Security Police Special Investigators who are attached to the Flying Complaints Flight Base at RAF Rudloe Manor.

Stimulating news, which has been a long time coming, just came to light recently, with the shock admission by the MOD's Kerry Philpott, of Secretariat Air Staff 2a (the MOD UFO desk), that RAF Rudloe Manor was indeed a co-ordination point for reports of UFOs. This facility is known to be staffed by senior non-commissioned officers trained in numerous methods of special investigations. MI5 also works with Rudloe. Much of the collaboration relates to Rudloe's work in checking the

MI5 also works with Rudloe. Much of the collaboration relates to Rudloe's work in checking the credentials of RAF employees who work with classified data. They keep bulky files on RAF employees with "highly subversive" interests, Animal Rights, Nuclear Disarmament, Liberty etc. It is not known for certain whether or not the Security Services take on UFO matters, but according to an ex-MI5 employee I managed to interview, they do monitor the activities of individual UFO investigators and civilian UFO research groups.

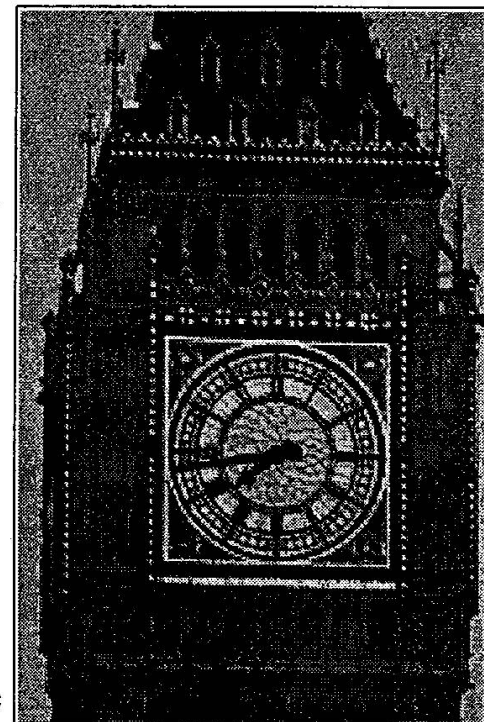
The reports that come into the MOD are sent to DI55 who then forward them to the Director of Security and Provost Marshall (RAF) in London, who in turn will inform an infrastructure of other departments such as Air Force operations and Airborne early warning/ground environment. Some of these organisations are amongst the most well developed military systems in the modern world.

Additional research has exposed an international liaison with other foreign intelligence authorities such as the American NSA, CIA, US Air Force Office of Special Investigation and the State Department's Office of Security Assistance, Science and Technology. The Defence Intelligence Liaison branch of the MOD (DIALL) provides this affiliation through the Government Communications Head Quarters.

Intense Government interest in the UFO topic doesn't end with the MOD's preoccupation. According to my source, the Home Office plays an operative role, sustaining teeming computer files on the subject. The MOD's Air Staff 2a has computerised UFO files, but most of them are pretty innocent. Nick Redfern, an outstanding Intelligence researcher, told me the database held by the Defence Intelligence Staff is meant to be explosive and refers to National Security Agency files (despite their being no such agency). My source told me there is a 'Main Computer' within the Home Office (F10 Division) which contains a database on several governmental issues, including UFOs. My contact also said that "only selective people can use the computer system in the matters of National Security". He continued, "I had a meeting with the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, and at the end of it I asked him about the UFO predicament. Howard didn't say much about the subject and went very quiet." This publicity will certainly be unwelcome. The Police Force also takes in a reasonable portion of UFO reports. The UK Atomic Energy Authority Constabulary are regularly briefed to anticipate UFO sightings in the proximity of atomic energy installations. They are to take no other action but are to prepare a report, which they then send to their superiors.

Unquestionably, our own armed forces are lively UFO researchers. Numerous instances have come to light involving UFO/RAF dog fighting, crash retrieval ventures and clandestine research into Alien technology at places such as RAF Farnborough, where during the mid-50s, secret research was conducted into UFOs, according to several RAF sources. The Defence and Evaluation Research Agency have a facility at Farnborough, rumoured lately to be housing a downed UFO and Boeing 747 jumbo jet.

During the 70s there was an impressive UFO encounter in Minley Manor Woods, not far from Farnborough. My source, who I'll call 'Hannah' told me there was a strong military attendance in the woods after several hexagonal shaped UFOs visited the district. Nowadays, the area is a Mecca for enigmatic unmarked helicopters and when questioned the local Air Force, Police and Airport assure me their aircraft are not in the territory. Last year, a helicopter hovered over a housing estate early one morning. The residents got up and went outside to see what all the fuss was about and it was then they saw four pulsing red lights above a corn field. The helicopter began to close in on the lights and as it got nearer, the lights shot off at great speed towards Aldershot.



In retrospect, it is now obvious that the British Government investigates UFO reports, but has it drawn any conclusions? According to some sources, the RAF did indeed reach a UFO decision asserting the root of the phenomena was extraterrestrial and that humankind was somehow related to the visitors! Was Darwin wrong? I daren't say, but I have learned that during the 1960s a building called Riverwalk House, which was used by the Intelligence Services (SIS, MI6, MI5) for the compilation of Eastern bloc and Russian affairs, did have some of the sought after answers. Apparently, during a document review in the building's library, two female colleagues came across a

Confidential file which stated the British Government had solved the UFO mystery, and that we really aren't alone!

Certainly, some UFO cases have come to light through US documents released under provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Here, ministers use secrecy to suppress embarrassing findings and to protect themselves from public challenge. But the findings about UFOs may be so powerful, governments acting in our names, may only be doing so because they feel it is the right thing to do. After all, government influence affects just about every aspect of our lives. In matters of national security, it seems obvious for governments to become mute, but I believe it is time for the curtain to be lifted and governments should become more honest with society.

Encounters would like to thank Jonathon Dillon for this fascinating insight into our government's guarded silence. Should you have any information relating to RAF/MOD/Military involvement etc. with the UFO subject, Jonathon would like to hear from you. He can be contacted at 176 Coal Clough Lane, Burnley, Lancashire, BB11 4NJ.

Finally Jonathon would in turn like to thank Matt Williams, of the *Truthseekers Review*, for the Photograph, Nick Redfern and Robert Gray for their help with this article.



Shelling out on brown eggs

24 Apr 97

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

QUESTION: Most eggshells used to be white, now they are mostly brown. Why is this?

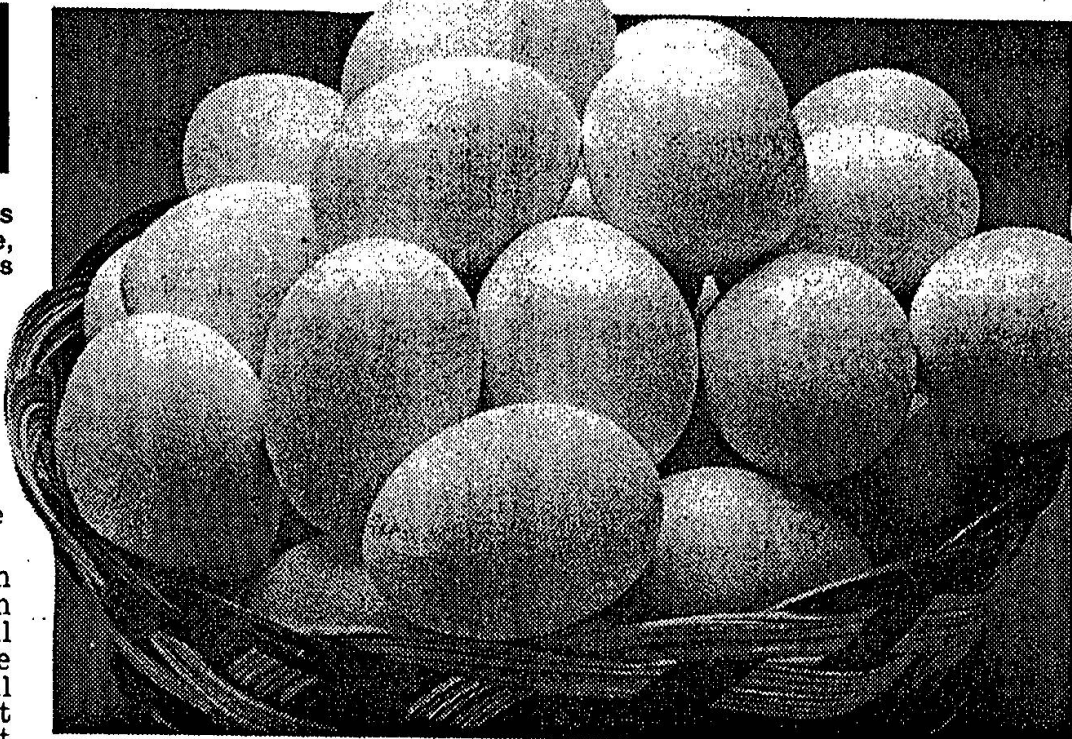
OF THE 9,504 million eggs produced every year in the UK (that's 26 million eggs a day) roughly 65 per cent go to the retail market, 20 pc to catering and 15 pc to processing. Hens in cages produce 86 pc of our eggs while 11 pc come from free-range hens and 3 pc from hens in barns.

Generally, white breeds of hen produce white eggs and brown hens make brown eggs. Shell colour has no influence on the nutritional value or internal composition of an egg, but consumer preference has almost entirely forced the white-shelled egg off UK shop shelves. In other countries, notably the US, the preference is for white eggs.

Peter Sellicks, British Egg Information Service, London.

QUESTION: Is anything now done in the underground factory at Hawthorn, near Box, Wiltshire, where my father worked during the war for the Bristol Aircraft Company?

THE site isn't a factory but a series of man-made caverns and tunnels created when stone was mined to



Brown's a cracker: People's preference is forcing white eggs out of shops

build the city of Bath. The underground complex has 40 miles of tunnel at various depths, of differing widths and heights, from tiny potholes to enormous caverns with floor spaces equivalent to 12 full-size football pitches.

During World War II, the complex was put to full military use as an underground ammunition store and workshop for vital components produced in relative safety from Luftwaffe bombing.

To maintain secrecy, much of what went in and out of the

caverns did so through a specially constructed underground branch to Box railway tunnel. One train would enter the tunnel and pull into the complex while another similar train left the complex for the exit at the other end, giving the impression that it was the same train.

Shortly after the war this very dark and damp complex was closed, even for storage and, though tours were conducted for several years, the area has now been sealed off for safety reasons.

Flt Lieut Jeremy Wright, RAF Rudloe Manor, Wilts.

QUESTION: When was the last time a British regiment went into battle wearing kilts?

FURTHER to the answer claiming kilts were not used after 1936, I have a photo taken at Stamlager

the Protecting Power (America in 1940) and had his kilt returned.

He snipped off several pieces from the heavy seams to reduce lice infestation and I obtained a couple of these snippings which I still use as bookmarks.

Capt W. Hutchings, Newhaven, East Sussex.

THE kilt was taken out of battle service in 1940 because it was considered unsuitable for mechanised warfare and cost far more to produce than standard uniform trousers. It was also suspended from service dress until after the war, the exceptions being pipers and drummers.

However, Winston Churchill gave special permission for the Liverpool Scottish to readopt the Forbes tartan and they were the last British unit to go into battle kilted when they formed part of a raiding force on St-Nazaire, France, in March 1942.

Frazer Keith, Cleethorpes, Lincs.

I SAW the Camerons wearing kilts at Sidi Barrani, Egypt, on December 9, 1940.

M. G. D'Arcy, Colyton, Devon.

QUESTION: What is the answer to the pub quiz question: There are three words in common use in the English language that end '-gry'. 'Angry' and 'hungry' are two, what is the third?

FURTHER to the earlier answer giving some examples, this has rather spiked the guns of those clever-clogs pub quizmasters who delight in asking questions which are updated versions of the old playground catch: 'Constantinople is a long word; can you spell it?'

The trick lies in the exact wording of the question: '... three words in common use in the English language ...', the answer being

QUESTION: What happens to deposits lost in a General Election?

ANY candidate in an election has to deposit £500 with the constituency's returning officer and receives it back only if he or she gets at least 5 per cent of the votes cast. If he or she fails to get 5 pc, their £500 goes into the Treasury's Consolidated Fund.

Of the 2,948 candidates who stood for the 651 constituencies in the last General Election, 903 polled less than 5 pc and forfeited a total of £451,500 in lost deposits.

Debbie Holgate, Chigwell, Essex.

A RECORD total of 3,718 candidates are standing for the 659 constituencies in this year's General Election, and each voter will have an average five or six candidates to choose from.

If the nation's voting patterns run true to form, an estimated 1,670 candidates will lose their deposits, bringing £836,500 into Treasury coffers, about one 54th of the cost of mounting the election.

Pat Hutton, Twickenham.

QUESTIONS

Q: What is the system underlying the star dates given by Captain Kirk at the beginning of Star Trek? I would be interested to know the star date of my birthday, January 12, 1964.

Paul Chandler, Linford, Essex.

Q: What is the island shaped like a butterfly one can see from the aircraft just beyond Papua New Guinea when flying from Cairns, Australia, to Hong Kong?

Mrs T. McGroarty, Alperton, West London.

Q: What was the basis of the codewords — for example, kushti (pretty), dulce (fair), shako (child), mark (generous person) — used by tramps who knocked on our doors in years gone by?

P. Wintell-Thompson, Bechill.

THE **Daily Mail** OFFER

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FOR three years, Ministry of Defence official Nick Pope was the UFO desk officer in the MoD division, Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a. In that time he concluded that there was compelling evidence for some encounters being of extraterrestrial origin. His subsequent expose, *Open Skies, Closed Minds*, was an instant bestseller.

Now, in a second book, *The Uninvited*, he has reached an even more startling conclusion. Aliens, he believes, are actually abducting thousands of people, possibly as a programme to 'civilise' human society. Today, in our final extract, he focuses on more strange cases and looks at conventional explanations for alien abduction.

WHAT happened to Patsy Ryan, a 28-year-old psychology graduate, in June 1992 is the sort of experience that sends ufologists into a frenzy.

She was spending a quiet afternoon sunbathing in a park near her London home when, suddenly, she felt herself being lifted up into the air in a violent spinning motion.

Even more extraordinary, not least because she seemed to be about 50ft above the ground, she was embarrassed that others would see her up in the air.

Such a thought might suggest that Patsy was dreaming, but there was to be a dramatic and compelling piece of evidence to support the theory that something more astonishing had happened.

Her immediate concern was to get back down to the ground. Willing herself to return, she came down slowly but surely, although she is clear in her mind that the last part of her descent was the hardest.

She remembers a strange jolting sensation, which she believes was her spiritual body interlocking with her physical self.

Then she became aware of great pain in her upper thigh, the most excruciating she had ever known. Later, at home, she examined her leg. She found a wound about 3/4in long, and 1/4in wide.

In time the wound became redder and more raised. She sought advice from her friend Hazel Gilbert, a nurse, who said the wound looked like a burn.

Two or three days later, the pain spread to the rest of her leg, and she asked Hazel to take her to the casualty department of Guy's Hospital in London. Nurses at Guy's examined the wound and confirmed Hazel's view that it looked like a burn. But Patsy was adamant that she had no recollection of having received such an injury.

The wound healed slowly, but the scar remained, and is still faintly visible. It is reminiscent of the type



by Nick Pope

FORMER UFO DESK OFFICER AT THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

of scars often reported by abductees as resulting from medical operations carried out by extraterrestrials.

How did Patsy receive such a serious burn in a public park? Why did she not recall being injured? How did it occur without leaving any mark on her shorts?

There was a gap of three years, Patsy believes, before she finally met extraterrestrials face to face. The 'encounter' happened on the afternoon of Saturday, September 23, 1995, while she was working in a Central London art shop.

A group of people assembled outside the shop in a quiet side street, and Patsy said to one of her colleagues, Maggie, that it looked as if a coach party had arrived.

The 13-strong group were definitely unusual. All of them were oddly dressed, as if uncomfortable in their clothes. One middle-aged man, for example, was wearing a stylish pin-striped suit, but had a pair of scruffy trainers on his feet.

A man with what appeared to be an American accent said hello to Patsy as they went into the shop, but she found herself unable to speak. It was as if an other-worldly atmosphere had descended. All the visitors were talking, but Patsy and Maggie were unable to make out a single clear word.

The group, having made no purchases, finally began to filter out of the shop, but then a Swedish-looking woman stepped forward and bought a single pencil.

Since then Patsy has flirted briefly with the world of ufology, but she has decided it is a world she wants little to do with.

■ *ABRIDGED extract from THE UNINVITED by Nick Pope, published by Simon & Schuster on June 2 at £15.99. © Nick Pope 1997. To order a copy p&p free, call 01624 675137.*

If Patsy had just dreamed of floating above the park, why had a mysterious wound appeared on her body . . .

■ **DURING** September 1990, James and Pamela Millen went camping in Dorset. One night they woke just before 3am and James, intrigued by lights he could see through the canvas, went outside. He saw several orange balls of light that seemed to be dancing in the air over an adjacent field. He pointed them out to Pamela and the couple watched, mesmerised, as the glowing spheres moved silently around. After a couple of minutes, he decided to get his camera, but what happened next remains unclear. Pamela recalls that James reappeared

and commented on a pile of cigarette ends at Pamela's feet, which seemed odd as he had been away for only a minute or so and she could not have smoked that many. When they looked at their watches it was 5.40am. More than two-and-a-half hours were unaccounted for.

James subsequently had recollections of being in a circular white room, lying on his back on something cold, and seeing figures dressed in robes rather like those worn by the Ku Klux Klan. He has no idea what happened to him, but believes that it was 'beneficial'.

■ **ON** November 9, 1979, forester Bob Taylor was walking in Dechmont

woods near Livingston, in Scotland, when he saw a huge, domed UFO hovering silently about 250ft above the ground. Two small, round balls detached from the craft and moved rapidly towards the startled forester. The objects had spikes on them, and looked rather like old naval mines.

The balls attached themselves to Taylor's trousers, cutting him, and he recalls an acrid smell, which was his last memory before passing out.

When he came to, he recalled the sound of an object moving off at high speed. When he returned to his truck, it would not start. Later, the police concluded that an object weighing several tons had been in the clearing.

SERIES

Lost hours on a weird car journey

LONDONER Mary O'Donnell, a 31-year-old secretary, was apparently involved in one of the most spectacular 'missing time' incidents I've come across. Last October, Mary was travelling on the M1 approaching Leeds with her friend Brenda Bailey when she noticed what she thought was a small aircraft flying across the road ahead of them.

It turned towards their car and, while Mary had a brief impression that it might be trying to land on the motorway, Brenda reached for some drinks that were in a bag on the floor. When she looked up again she yelled: 'Where the hell are we?'

They were no longer on the motorway, but on a roundabout in central Leeds. Mary and Brenda had both experienced the same sudden transition from motorway to roundabout.

Just before Mary saw the aircraft, they had made a note of the time — 2pm. Now, an instant later as far as they were concerned, it was 5.30pm.

The scenario fits the classic story of aliens intercepting people travelling in cars, but surely anything unusual would have been witnessed by countless other motorists. Could some form of mass hypnosis have been involved?

IF ABDUCTIONS are nothing to do with an extraterrestrial presence, what conventional theories might explain what is going on?

BIRTH TRAUMA

MANY psychologists believe that the trauma of birth is one of our most profound experiences, and is largely responsible for shaping our psyche. Is it not conceivable that recollections of abductions are recollections of birth?

Some of the images reported in a typical abduction experience mirror images associated with birth. Many abductees report being in an environment that contains no right angles. Might this not be a distorted memory of the womb?

The aliens bear more than a passing resemblance to a foetus. The central procedure reported by so many abductees is medical, and is recalled as traumatic.

The problem with such a theory is that, unlike birth, the abduction phenomenon is experienced by only a small percentage of the population.

NEAR-DEATH/OUT-OF-BODY EXPERIENCES

IN A typical near-death experience (NDE), said to occur sometimes in hospitals when a person is clinically dead for a few seconds, the subject reports a lifting sensation. There is a feeling that they are travelling down a tunnel, at the end of which is a bright light.

Some experts believe NDEs arise from the brain being starved of oxygen. But this would not explain the NDE cases where people report details of real conversations that occurred outside the room they were in.

The out-of-body experience (OBE) is similar but is not limited to critically-ill people. They will typically report seeing their body lying below them.

The similarity of sensation and imagery between abductions, NDEs and OBEs — especially the lifting sensation — is remarkable.

Explanations for these disturbing occurrences

HOAXES

FRAUDSTERS are often intelligent people who are capable of constructing intricate and believable fantasies. Some do it for fun, others for publicity and money. Then there are those who have a 'fantasy-prone personality': the psychologically-driven need to be at the centre of dramatic events. However, bogus stories account for relatively few abduction testimonies.

FALSE MEMORY SYNDROME

MEMORY is not an accurate record of past events. Sometimes, when we play events over in our minds or relate an experience, what started as something about which we were unsure finishes up as a certainty. This is called false memory syndrome.

HYPNAGOGIC OR HYPNOPOMPIC IMAGERY

JUST before we fall asleep and just after we wake up, our minds are in a curious state of consciousness. In this state we sometimes see images or experience sensations that seem real.

TEMPORAL LOBE LABILITY

THE temporal lobes are areas of the brain associated with memory,

emotion and understanding of speech. They can be extremely labile — that is, unstable and responsive to stimulation — and give rise to the feeling of a strange presence, a sense of ascending into the air, and panic.

ELECTROMAGNETISM

SOME researchers suggest that many UFO and abduction experiences have their roots in electromagnetic anomalies — possibly caused by tectonic stresses in the Earth's crust — which can cause hallucinations in those who come close to them.

SLEEP PARALYSIS

THIS is the biological process which inhibits our movements during sleep. In the borderline state between being asleep and awake, it can lead to situations where people wake up and are momentarily unable to move, perhaps giving them the impression that something is holding them down.

CHILD SEX ABUSE

SUCH events have a devastating effect on the victims, who will carry the mental scars for life. The mind often suppresses memories of traumatic events. The problem is that they never disappear and can resurface from the subconscious at any time, often in a jumbled or disguised form.

HAVE you had any experiences of the paranormal? Send your accounts to the Features Department, Daily Mail, Northcliffe House, 2 Derry Street, London W8 5TT.



THE UNINVITED

DAY TWO OF AN EXTRAORDINARY INQUIRY

Daily Mail, Wednesday, May 14, 1997

FROM 1991 to 1994, Nick Pope was UFO desk officer at the Ministry of Defence's Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a. His initial scepticism was swept away by military and civilian evidence which he believed proved some UFOs were of extraterrestrial origin. He made his findings public in an instant bestseller, *Open Skies, Closed Minds*. Now, in his latest book, which is being serialised by the Mail, Pope has an even more startling conclusion — he believes people are being abducted by aliens and subjected to mysterious examinations. He has investigated hundreds of cases — half, he insists, are genuine happenings. Yesterday, in part one, Pope set out his controversial argument for the abduction phenomenon. Today, in part two, he describes more strange encounters...

JAYNE RIMMER, a 40-year-old mother of three from the West Country, is a professional clairvoyant who attributes her strange powers to what she believes was her first encounter with aliens on a Sunday night in November 1992.

She had gone to bed at about 10pm, but was restless and could not sleep. Some time later she heard a strange, electronic buzzing sound, which made the hairs on her arms stand on end. Simultaneously, the family's two dogs started to whine.

Then, at around 1am, she heard her eldest son Mark arguing with his girlfriend Sue, who had been staying with the family. The argument became so heated that at one stage Mark tried to get Sue out of the house.

This was out of character, and it later transpired that he had felt a sense of impending danger; a feeling that something was going to happen which he did not want Sue to be caught up in.

Jayne's husband Tom is normally a light sleeper but on this night Jayne could not rouse him, despite shaking him violently.

At 1.45am she heard a blast of air, as if automatic doors had opened, and suddenly she felt herself being lifted up and carried from her bedroom into a corridor.

She could see little grey figures around her and described them as having wrinkled skin, 'like a mushroom'. There was a strong smell of ammonia and something else which she could only liken to Brylcreem.

By this stage she was not sure whether she was being carried or if she was walking. She caught sight of a woman with blonde, shoulder-length hair, who was smiling.

Jayne felt frightened but kept telling herself it was only a dream. At the back of her mind, however, she was convinced it was not.

She entered an oval-shaped room — with three pyramid designs on the wall that she thought must be insignia of some kind — which was bathed in an exceptionally bright light.

A medical examination was then carried out. She had pains in her stomach and felt that something was being done to her head, and particularly to her ears.

At the end of this procedure she was taken to what appeared to be a refectory, where there seemed to be a lot of people eating, talking and relaxing. She was offered a drink but cannot recall any more details.

HER AWARENESS — which up to now had been rather unfocused — began to sharpen. She suddenly started to appreciate the enormity, and the extreme strangeness, of what was occurring. A sudden thought crystallised in her mind: 'They're aliens.'

As soon as the thought was out, Jayne felt that the entities realised she was not under the mysterious control that had made her so docile and compliant, and they did something to her, placing her into an altered state of consciousness.

She saw an image of her mother, who had been dead for many years. Jayne feels this imagery was deliberately placed in her mind to convince her that she was dreaming.

She then felt a curious pulling, as



by NICK POPE

FORMER UFO DESK OFFICER AT THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

if she was being sucked into a vortex, followed by a thump as she fell back into her own bed. The time was now 4.35am and Jayne spent the next 20 minutes trying, unsuccessfully, to rouse her husband.

She made a cup of tea and lit a cigarette. Then she noticed that she was shaking uncontrollably and sweating. She started thinking about the events of the previous night and kept trying to convince herself that she had dreamed them.

When Tom, a mechanic, finally woke, Jayne told him about her 'nightmare'. Later, when both came to believe there was an astounding explanation for Jayne's experience, Tom gave her his complete support.

FOR THE rest of the day Jayne suffered from shaking, headaches and extreme thirst. She is usually very calm but every time she thought about her 'dream', a feeling of dread came over her. The family's dogs and cat also acted strangely and refused to come into the house.

When her son Mark came home at 5pm, his first words finally dashed her hopes of passing the incident off as a vivid nightmare: 'What the hell was going on in your bedroom last night?'

A chill came over Jayne as Mark described what he had experienced. It transpired that after he had made sure Sue had gone home, he had returned to bed but had been unable to sleep. He had then seen a bizarre green, fluorescent light shining all around his door, as if there was an extremely bright light source just outside his room.

He tried to move but was overcome by a feeling of paralysis. He, too, heard the eerie whooshing sound, together with what sounded like very loud voices, although quite unlike anything he had heard before. He was aware of nothing else until the morning.

Jayne, profoundly affected by this corroborative account, was very

Jayne felt a rush of air like automatic doors opening as she was carried from her bedroom into a blaze of light. Then she realised exactly what was happening to her

emotional over the next few days. She was afraid to go to bed and could do so only if her pets were in the room with her. The experience also seemed to unlock memories of earlier incidents, such as one in November 1991.

On this occasion Jayne woke with a start and had been aware of what she thought was an exceptionally bright full moon outside her window. Standing by the chest of drawers was a tall figure she assumed was her husband.

She wondered why he was standing there but assumed it had something to do with his insomnia. A few seconds later the truth dawned on her, as she moved her arm and felt that Tom was sleeping soundly beside her.

Only the benevolence emanating from the figure prevented her from screaming out.

As Jayne's night vision began to take effect, she got a better view. The figure was male, tall, with long blond/brown hair and possibly a beard. He was kindly-looking, not dissimilar to the popular image of Jesus.

He was wearing a shiny garment that looked almost as if it were made of polythene and was leaning against the chest of drawers, with

his arms folded nonchalantly. The amazing thing was that Jayne could see right through him.

In the past she had seen what she had believed were ghosts, but Jayne sensed that this was very different and definitely possessed self-awareness.

Jayne hid under the quilt until the figure disappeared. The following morning her daughter, then eight, asked her: 'Why was Daddy watching me in bed last night?'

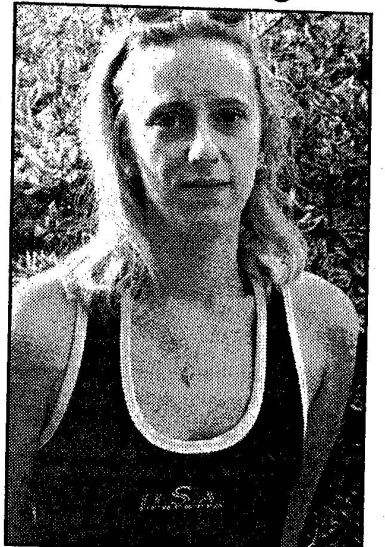
The next strange event took place on a Thursday night after Jayne had retired early. When she woke up she was not in bed but on a hard surface. She felt warm and comfortable and was aware of a lilac/white light above her in a narrow line, as if from a strip light, and of two figures on either side of her.

She heard a conversation: 'She's aware of where she is.' 'She can't be.' 'We've got to take her back.'

She then felt a spiralling sensation and found herself back in bed. Next day, she was positive the experience had been real, not just a dream.

Jayne says she has since developed precognition — the ability to see the future — and is now one of Britain's most talented clairvoyants.

Greys



Alien abductee: Vaunda Hoscik

■ HAVE you had any experiences of the paranormal? Send your accounts to the Features Department, Daily Mail, Northcliffe House, 2 Derry Street, London W8 5TT.

BY THE DEFENCE OFFICIAL WHO BELIEVES ALIENS ARE ABDUCTING PEOPLE



Our car was sucked upwards into the air

ON JANUARY 3, 1991, Londoner Peter Milton, his American girlfriend Jenny Robinson and her friend Sharon Voght had a classic UFO encounter while driving from Orlando to Boca Raton, Florida — the details of which emerged only later during hypnotic regression.

They took the Florida Turnpike, a toll road which skirts around the Everglades and Lake Okeechobee. There is no way to leave the road other than by the exits, with booths and barriers.

Jenny was driving the rented Honda, while Peter was at her side. Sharon was asleep in the back.

Slowly, Peter became aware that something odd was happening. He had a map and had noticed that the distance between the last exit they had passed and the next one — the one they wanted — was short. They had placed the toll ticket on the dashboard with the few dollars they would need to pay at the booth.

But there was no sign of the exit. Peter wondered whether the map might be out of date and mentioned this to Jenny. She was a native of Florida and knew the route well. But

she was confused, too. In an instant, they were on the outskirts of Boca Raton. They looked at each other in disbelief. The toll ticket and money were still on the dashboard. They did not mention the event to Sharon, since she had slept through it.

A few months later, Peter was chillingly reminded of their odd experience when he read a book about alien abductions. It described a motorist who had had a similar experience.

In the autumn of 1995, Peter, his relationship with Jenny long since over, visited the U.S. once again. This time he underwent regression hypnosis to try to resolve what had happened on the toll road. Under hypnosis he told a remarkable story...

He recalled feeling uneasy. Next moment, their car was being pulled off the road. He glanced to his left and saw Jenny was sitting in the driving seat, staring ahead, with her hands on the steering wheel.

They felt nauseous as the car was drawn off the road and sucked upwards, turning as it went. When it stopped, they were surrounded by trees, as if they were in a clearing, a hundred feet up in the air.

The trees were illuminated, but Peter was unsure whether this was from the car headlights or from another source. Peter glanced again

at Jenny, who seemed like a statue. He unfastened his seatbelt and opened the car door, telling Jenny that he wouldn't be long. He stepped out into thin air.

He was supported by an invisible surface which 'gave' slightly — a feeling he likened to walking on a mattress. He stepped up to avoid tripping on what seemed to be a bulkhead.

Suddenly, without being aware of how the transition had happened, Peter was walking down a metallic corridor. Floor lights were coming on in sequence and gave the impression of a moving arrow, which Peter felt he had to follow.

When the lights stopped, he was at an open door which led into a room piled with cardboard boxes full of junk. He recalled seeing hazard lamps and road traffic signs.

Leaving the room, he saw that the direction of the floor lights had reversed and were pointing back the way he had come. He followed them, not feeling the urge to explore. Soon he was walking on air again. When he looked back, the corridor was disappearing into the trees.

He got back into the car, closed the door and fastened his seatbelt. The car spun to the ground. It was put back on a road near Boca Raton.

spirited me away for tests

VAUNDA Hoscik, 22, from Dulwich, South London, believes she has been abducted by

aliens many times. She was only 14 when, she says, the extraterrestrial beings known to ufologists as Greys somehow spirited her from her bedroom and then subjected her to memory tests in a metallic, brightly lit room with banks of computer screens on the walls.

Several years later, says Vaunda, she had telepathic contact with an alien called Antholus, who said 16 alien species were visiting Earth, and some carried out experiments on people.

He told Vaunda: 'As the years have passed we have been studying your planet thoroughly. We have come to the conclusion that for every one person who believes in us

there are another ten who don't.

'Therefore we have a harder task to convince those of you who don't believe.

'You have so much to offer us, just as we have a lot to offer you and your society. Hopefully, one day in the near future, we will be able to show you just what we can actually give you.

'It is an effort to keep ourselves hidden, with your technology becoming more and more advanced. Unfortunately, until we feel we can trust you completely, we are unable to reveal ourselves in full.

'This is why we are taking people, in the hope that they will spread the word of our existence.'

■ ON A summer's evening in 1979, in Didsbury, near Manchester, Lynda Jones was out walking with her young son and daughter. Suddenly they saw an object hurtling towards them from the sky and,

thinking an aircraft was about to crash, they crouched down in a field. When the object had passed overhead they ran up a hill to get a better view. To their amazement, they saw a crescent-shaped UFO. Lynda was extremely curious, and felt drawn to it.

Time seemed to stand still for her, and she walked towards the brightly lit object. But, prompted by the shouting of her daughter, all three ran off.

When they got home, one and a half hours of time was unaccounted for, and the following morning Lynda's husband, Trevor, noticed that she had red marks, similar to blistering sunburn, around her

eyes. Under hypnotic regression, Lynda recalled seeing a figure in the field, followed by a floating sensation.

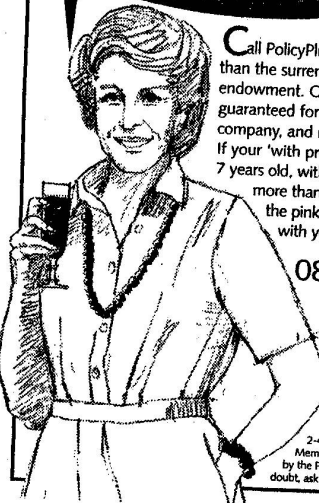
She then recalls being in a room with three tall figures with black hair, jump suits and large, black, almond-shaped eyes.

The figures were shining a bright light in her face. She does not know how to evaluate this incident, which she freely admits was outside her knowledge or experience.

■ ABRIDGED extract from *The Uninvited* by Nick Pope, to be published by Simon & Schuster on June 2 at £15.99. © Nick Pope 1997. To order your copy p&p free, please call 01624 675137.

TOMORROW: MORE TALES OF ALIEN ENCOUNTERS

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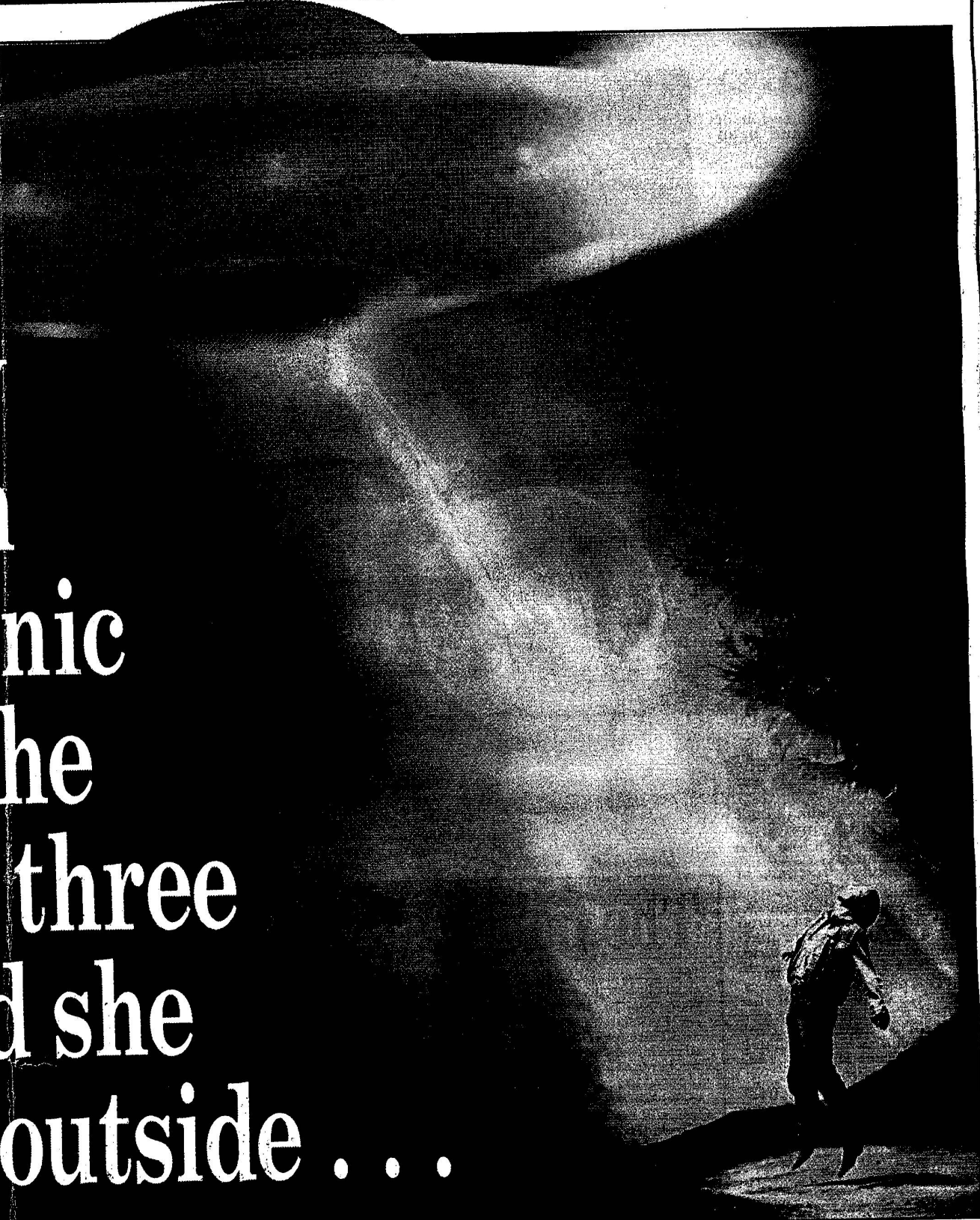
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SCIENCE OFFICIAL EXAMINES TALES OF ALIEN ABDUCTION AND DRAWS STARTLING CONCLUSIONS

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Now it was three
morning and she
bright light outside . . .



MARIA'S STORY

CHILDHOOD recollections of 'going somewhere' when 'the Moon landed in the garden' came back to haunt Maria Ward after the birth of her son, Andras, when she was 19.

Doctors said she would not be able to have more children because a previous laparoscopy had left adhesions in her womb. A closer examination revealed a strange scar on her navel, consistent with keyhole surgery.

The doctors wanted to know about the operation. Maria was shocked and frightened. Apart from the removal of a cyst from her ear, she had never had surgery before.

Maria, now 36, from Dartford, Kent, did her best to forget this mystery. She got on with family life and started a five-year degree in philosophy.

Then, on November 21, 1990, Maria's husband, John, went away on a training course for a few days. Maria was apprehensive. For the previous two weeks there had been a series of mysterious, electronic beeping sounds in the house. That night,

at exactly 3.17am, she suddenly woke up as if someone had shaken her and noticed a bright light outside.

She saw an object which appeared to be shaped like a gigantic wheel, complete with spokes, and an outer rim festooned with multi-coloured lights of blue, white and red, which seemed to be rotating around the rim. At the hub of this 'wheel' was a bright white light.

The object moved closer, and she panicked. She was afraid for Andras, who was sleeping in the room with Maria (a special treat whenever John was away). She tried to rouse him, but, mysteriously, he would not wake up.

Suddenly, a blue/white light the size and shape of a football began to come through the bedroom wall. Maria heard a voice telling her not to be frightened and to follow the light.

She did, as if under some kind of compulsion, and was somehow led through the closed front

door. She describes the process as being like 'moving through treacle', and recalls that she was aware of the internal structure of the wood — the splinters, gaps and knots.

Once outside she was pulled quickly upwards into the air, catching sight of a tennis ball in a gutter on the house. Weeks later, she pinpointed its exact location.

MARIA was suddenly aware that she had stopped moving and was standing on something solid. She saw three small, brown creatures in front of her.

They were up to 4ft tall, naked with hairless smooth skin and had large eyes. Somehow, Maria knew they were male, although no genitalia were visible.

She was taken into a room with a domed ceiling. In the centre was a raised, 'rectangular

platform. Five creatures were with her and then another arrived and stood in front of her.

This one, physically, was markedly different. Taller and a dirty white in colour, its face was slightly fuller, and there was a small bump which might have been a nose and a slit where a mouth might have been.

Once Maria looked into its large black eyes, she could not look away. The being communicated a thought to her: 'Has it been so long.' Not a question, but a statement.

Maria found herself lying on the platform and felt her thoughts being 'pulled' out of her head. 'It was like someone was raping my mind,' she told me.

One of the creatures produced a lime-green device about a foot long and triangular in shape with a bright green light at its tip. She was prodded with it. Everywhere it touched her, bruises would later appear on her body.

When it touched her arm, she was able to see the blood flowing inside her, and even her bone structure.

Something was stuck into her finger and, though the skin was not broken, a tiny circle of red

dots was visible for eight weeks after, she claimed.

A block descended from the ceiling and stopped just above her, bathing her with a blue/white light. Then one of the creatures inserted a long filament into her neck just below her right ear, causing terrible pain.

THE tall alien touched her forehead and stared into her eyes. The pain evaporated. It was as if she had been anaesthetised.

Maria glanced downwards and, to her horror, saw something moving inside her stomach.

There was a sharp pull at her navel, and then the sound of things being put in some sort of tray, somewhere at the foot of the platform, out of sight.

At another stage in the procedure, something was placed up her nose.

Finally, all the beings left, apart from one of the brown ones. Maria was now able to move. Realising that she was naked,

TURN TO NEXT PAGE

THE UNINVITED



A BRITISH DEFENCE

FOR THREE years, Nick Pope was UFO desk officer at the Ministry of Defence's Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a. He swept aside official reticence about compelling military and civilian evidence of extraterrestrials visiting Earth. Concerned by the national security implications, he wrote *Open Skies, Closed Minds*, serialised by the Mail and an instant bestseller. All along, though, he was amassing evidence of an even more frightening phenomenon — abduction of humans by aliens. Now, in his new book, which is being serialised by the Mail, Pope reveals his extraordinary conclusion...



by
**NICK
POPE**

Maria was
scared.
Her husband
and their
mysterious
beeping
house. Now
in the mail
I saw a bi

ABDUCTIONS of humans by alien visitors to Earth are fact, not fiction. That, I know, is a startling and shocking statement, but I stand by it. The evidence for abductions is so strong as to be virtually undeniable.

At the Ministry of Defence, I started out as a sceptic about UFOs but came to believe that some were genuinely of extraterrestrial origin. At the same time, I slowly accumulated evidence for the abduction of humans by these mysterious aliens.

Initially, I was distinctly sceptical about the abduction phenomenon. I believed these claims were made by cranks, and that they devalued 'ufology' and alienated the public.

Slowly, though, my views changed. The sheer volume of reports, the common features of independent accounts and the physical and emotional effects on abductees convinced me that we were dealing with more than just hoaxes or psychological delusions.

While prosaic explanations accounted for some abductions, they could not explain all of them. Around the world, thousands of people have reported being taken into a craft, against their will, by alien beings. The most likely explanation for this is that the witnesses are, generally speaking, describing events that actually took place.

Having spoken to hundreds of genuine, well-meaning people, I believe alien abduction may be far more common than even many ufologists suspect. The purpose of this extraterrestrial meddling is, I believe, to 'civilise' human society.

Most abductees are neither cranks nor hoaxers. They are only too mindful of the adverse reactions to their claims. Many had their sanity questioned, were called liars and ostracised by family and friends. At the very least, they have risked ridicule.

I started off feeling that genetic explanations, centring on an extraterrestrial programme to create a human/alien hybrid race, were the key to the mystery.

BUT why should aliens whose technology is clearly light years ahead of ours bother with the logistical nightmare of thousands of abductions when they could easily remove the genetic material they wanted from our laboratories?

Ultimately, though, I discarded the genetic theory because it did not tally with the views of the abductees I met, many of whom had positive feelings about their experiences.

This, coupled with the abductees' frequent and spontaneous development of interests in spiritualism and the environment, seemed at odds with the idea of aliens using them as guinea pigs.

I am the first to admit that my belief that the phenomenon is part of a campaign to civilise us is only one more theory to join the ranks of competing ideas.

The distress experienced by some abductees has been sobering and has acted as a brake on the idea that my theory may represent some sort of New Age interpretation of the phenomenon.

It would be nice to think that the motivation behind abductions is to prepare humans for entry into some sort of galactic network, but if this were so, why aren't the extraterrestrials open with us?

The covert nature of what is going on suggests that any alterations being made to our behaviour are done for the benefit of the abductors, not for us — perhaps to remove the threat we may pose to them.

This phenomenon needs serious investigation. The real crime against humanity may not be that inflicted upon us by extraterrestrials, but rather the official indifference that allows the phenomenon to continue unchallenged.

Today and tomorrow I will be revealing the most convincing — and startling — cases I have investigated.



Risking ridicule: Maria Ward Picture: NICK POPE

THE UNINVITED MORE ASTONISHING 'ALIEN ENCOUNTERS'

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

she put on her baggy T-shirt, which was lying beside her, neatly folded.

She had no recollection of how or when it had been removed.

Minutes later, another of the taller beings had somehow appeared in the room.

Maria instinctively knew this was a female, before she noticed that the creature was wearing what she could describe only as a crude, paper dress — as if for show.

The being stared at Maria, who felt the scrutiny to be uncomfortable and intrusive. She went through a complete range of emotions, which she felt were being deliberately induced.

Then images were flashed in front of her, some of them apocalyptic and distressing.

ONE showed the Earth, as if from space, with what appeared to be a horrendous yellow and black bruise over the North Pole. Could this have been a warning about the hole in the ozone layer?

Another image was of a nuclear explosion in the South of France.

Finally, as a wave of tiredness swept over her, she was led out of the room. The next thing Maria knew, she was walking up the stairs in her house back to bed. She glanced at the clock. It was 4.23am.

When she awoke she did not remember anything. But, while brushing her hair, she noticed that quite a lot of it was missing from the back of her head.

There were further revelations: her T-shirt was covered with a strange orange material and her feet were dirty. She felt as if she were in shock.

Over the next few weeks, memories came back in disjointed fragments. And she suddenly began to suffer claustrophobia, which became so debilitating that she consulted her doctor.

He felt she was suffering from traumatic stress, stemming from some intense, unpleasant experience. When his questions failed to find any obvious cause, the doctor suggested Maria undergo hypnosis to relax her.

A hypnotherapist, Dr Susan Winne, suggested that Maria be regressed. But instead of a 'conventional' cause being discovered, Maria recounted the story of the abduction.

MARIA also spontaneously regressed to when, at 16, she had apparently been sealed in a perspex capsule which floated above the ground and filled with a gelatinous pink liquid.

Dr Winne would not continue the session, saying that she was simply not able to evaluate Maria's account.

It is important to stress that this was the only regression session Maria has undergone.

Once these memories surfaced, the rest began to emerge unaided.

What are we to make of Maria? The sceptics might simply say she is lying, but she has passed two polygraph 'lie-detector' tests administered by a qualified expert, Jeremy Barrett.

■ **ABRIDGED extract from *The Uninvited* by Nick Pope, to be published by Simon & Schuster on June 2, at £15.99. © Nick Pope 1997. To order your copy p&p free, please call 01624 675137.**



The essential features of an extra-terrestrial

DAVID E. JACOBS is a historian who has analysed the stories of more than 60 abductees. The abductees did not know each other and had not heard of each others' experiences.

Yet, under hypnosis, the alien figures they described were so alike that Jacobs could set down common denominators and describe the essential features of an extraterrestrial.

They occur so frequently, and are so stereotyped, that they have even been given a name: psychologists call them the 'Greys'.

■ **A GREY** is 3½ to 4½ft tall, with a disproportionately large head, like a pear upside down.

■ **THEY** are hairless, have leathery skin, only the smallest protuberance for a nose and lipless mouths that do not move.

■ **THEY** communicate by telepathy.

■ **THE** most striking feature is the eyes: black, enormous, almond-shaped, compelling. They do not blink, nor do they move in their sockets. They are like goggles. Yet, staring into them, they seem to have enormous power — to communicate, to reassure or to frighten.

■ **GREYS** are usually naked, but no genitals are seen. The chest does not swell as they breathe.

■ **THESE** beings are frail, with thin limbs and no bone structure or musculature. They have three fingers, with no opposable thumb.

A second type is also reported: the Nordic. It is humanoid, taller and has blond hair. Americans see 12 Greys to every one Nordic. In Europe, though, the Nordics outnumber the Greys.

Some abductees feel that the Nordics are female. One woman even reported that a Nordic had tried on her high-heeled shoes. That is either evidence of derangement or it is a detail that no one could possibly have made up.

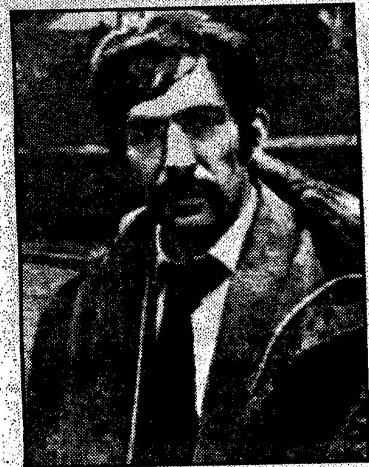
One bizarre detail: to Britons, Greys smell of cinnamon or rotting leaves; in America, the scent is of ammonia, sulphur, lemons and almonds.

The bobby snatched from his beat

ONE of the most famous abduction cases in Britain happened on November 26, 1980, and involved a police constable based in the Yorkshire town of Todmorden. Alan Godfrey was nearing the end of his night shift when he was ordered to investigate reports that some cows had escaped from a farmer's field and were getting into private gardens. Godfrey drove towards the area and, as he rounded a bend, saw what he at first took to be a bus in the road. On closer inspection, he saw it was a diamond-shaped object hovering 5ft above the ground. Godfrey attempted to contact his headquarters, but his

radio would not function properly. He decided to sketch the object in his notebook and after having done so found himself suddenly and mysteriously about 100 yards further down the road. The UFO had vanished. He returned to the police station, picked up a colleague and went back to the site of his encounter. They noticed that the road was much drier at the point where Godfrey had seen the craft. What puzzled him was that, when he had returned to the police station, it had been much later than he thought. Under hypnosis, an abduction story emerged. Apparently, Godfrey had got out of

the car for a better look at the object, but had suddenly seen a bright light emanating from the craft. He had been frightened and had tried to drive off, only to find that his car would not start. Recalling being inside the craft, he felt he was being restrained. He saw a tall, bearded humanoid figure called Joseph, together with smaller creatures who Joseph said were robots. Godfrey even described seeing a dog on the craft. He said that he was placed on a table, but, despite recollections of a bright light and some sort of machinery, was unable to remember any further details.



Bright light: Alan Godfrey

Alfred the fisherman was not a prize catch

ON AUGUST 12, 1983, Alfred Burtoo was night-fishing on the Basingstoke Canal near Aldershot, Hampshire, when he saw a bright light approaching.

His dog growled and then Alfred saw two entities walking towards him. They were about 4ft tall, dressed in green one-piece overalls, with their heads covered by a sort of helmet. They beckoned to him to follow them, which he did.

Then, on the towpath, he encountered a UFO on the ground and followed the beings aboard. After some time inside, during which Burtoo had been observing his surroundings, he was told to stand under a light.

He was asked his age, and told them he was 77. To his disappointment, he was told that he was too old for their



UFO reject: Alfred Burtoo

purposes. He then left the craft, heard a whining noise and saw the craft fly away at high speed.

Incredibly, he calmly picked up his equipment and carried on fishing. Burtoo died in 1986, never once having changed his story.

AN IMPORTANT British case occurred near Aveley in Essex in 1974. John and Susan Day, with their three children, were returning from a relative's house when they saw a blue light following them.

A little later, their car radio began to malfunction and gave off smoke. As the car negotiated a bend, it entered a patch of strange green mist and was jolted. When the vehicle emerged from the mist, the family found they were much further down the road.

Arriving home, they turned on their television and were amazed to find that the evening's programmes had finished. They had lost several hours.

Under hypnosis, the Days recalled being taken onto a craft and subjected to medical investigations. The aliens they recalled were tall humanoids, which ufologists label Nordics.

■ **ON DECEMBER 1, 1987**, a former policeman, Philip Spencer, was walking on Ilkley Moor in Yorkshire. He heard a low humming sound and then saw a strange creature. He took a

Baffled by a strange gap in time

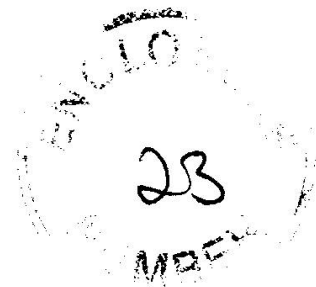
photograph of it and followed it to a UFO which seemed to consist of two saucers joined together. The entity got into the craft, which accelerated away at high speed.

When Spencer returned home, he found he had lost two hours and, during a hypnotic regression, recalled being taken into the craft by creatures with pointed ears.

As a number of other abductees have reported, he was then shown a film which contained apocalyptic images. He was also shown a second film, the contents of which he was told not to reveal.

TOMORROW: WHAT ELSE COULD EXPLAIN ALIEN ABDUCTIONS?

International Herald Tribune
5th April 1997
Page 5



For Many Americans, Existence of UFOs Is an Article of Faith

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

For many ufologists, it's another government cover up. This month, the U.S. Department of Defense attempted once again to convince the American people that the military has not made contact with aliens, is not harboring an alien base under the Nevada desert and is not harboring the remains of unidentified flying objects.

In fact, a Pentagon spokesman said, the military gave up the search for aliens 18 years ago because it was considered a waste of taxpayers' money.

The conspiracy theorists who abound in America and literally swarm on the Internet might point out that 18 years is about as long as little gray beings with pointy heads and wraparound eyes have been stealing people from their beds in the middle of the night and forcing them to take part in a kind of intergalactic breeding program.

The fact that most of these abductions take place in the United States, said Philip J. Klass, a longtime skeptic, is an indication either that Americans are tastier, or "we have more kooks."

Ufology began 50 years ago this summer when a pilot, Kenneth Arnold, reported sighting a formation of silvery disks above Mount Rainier on June 24, 1947. Newspapers coined the expression "flying saucers," and within a few months accounts of more sightings started pouring in by the hundreds.

Two weeks after Mr. Arnold had his vision, a rancher in New Mexico found some unusual wreckage — bits and pieces of a thin, lightweight silvery material with patterns that resembled

hieroglyphs. The wreckage was taken to the nearby Roswell Air Base, where a spokesman announced that the Army Air Corps had recovered a "flying disk."

Although the statement was quickly retracted, the lore about aliens spread unchecked amid the secrecy surrounding America's nuclear weapons development, and now seems as deeply implanted in the human consciousness as earlier myths about fairies, witches or demons.

Ufology, said Mr. Klass in an interview, "is a modern substitute for religion." Indeed, the California cultists who committed suicide to join a spaceship they believed to be traveling in the wake of the Hale-Bopp comet borrowed a concept believed by millions of American born-again Protestants — that at the end of the world, the chosen few will be "raptured" into heaven while the rest stay below to fight it out at the Battle of Armageddon.

Many UFO buffs are convinced that the government has recovered alien bodies and an intact flying saucer. Some say they know for sure that aliens have a base in southern Nevada known as Area 51 or more simply as Dreamland, and others believe just as firmly that the government has

signed a treaty with the gray intruders — their technology in exchange for the right to abduct Americans for use in medical experiments and a breeding program. That's not all. Among ufologists, aliens are widely held responsible for the deaths of cattle, whose remains, always "surgically dissected," are left to baffle small-town sheriffs.

A few true believers, who call themselves "starseed," are firmly convinced that they themselves ARE aliens, but hardened conspiracy the-

orists dismiss them as government plants to discredit the UFO movement.

The U.S. Air Force and the General Accounting Office have both issued lengthy reports saying the wreckage found in 1947 came from a balloon used to track evidence of Soviet nuclear explosions.

As alien speculation mounted with the arrival of the Hale-Bopp comet and the suicide of Cali-

formia cultists, a Defense Department spokesman, Ken Bacon, stated, "We cannot substantiate the existence of UFOs, and we are not harboring remains of UFOs."

Mr. Bacon said that between 1947 and 1969, as part of "Project Blue Book," the air force investigated 12,618 sightings and found no evidence that any were extraterrestrial vehicles.

What the Pentagon spokesman did not and could not explain is why so many Americans and a growing number of people around the world believe that they have been abducted by aliens. The mythology about alien kidnapping began to accrue in the 1960s with the publication of John G. Fuller's book, "The Interrupted Journey," which told how a couple, Barney and Betty Hill, were abducted off a lonely road, taken to a space craft and subjected to medical experiments.

In the 1980s, a New York artist called Budd Hopkins uncovered hundreds of similar stories by hypnotizing subjects, writing about their experiences in two books, "Missing Time," and "Intruders." He sent many of the subjects to a Harvard psychiatrist, John Mack, whose views, which he wrote about in a 1994 best-seller called "Abduction," is essentially that if people believe they have been taken by aliens it must be true. Earlier, Whitley Strieber, a science-fiction writer, told about his personal abduction experience in a best-seller called "Communion."

But like tales of childhood sexual abuse, all of these accounts have emerged under hypnosis with, critics say, a lot of suggestion from the therapists.

"There is zero hard evidence of any sort," said

a Harvard colleague of Dr. Mack, the physicist Paul Horowitz. "There are only anecdotes, experiences earnestly believed but not buttressed by any sort of real evidence."

Robert Baker, emeritus professor of psychology at the University of Kentucky, said that the abductions were real enough to those who say they experience them. "During the middle ages, they were called incubus and succubus attacks," he said. "The modern equivalent of the demons is the aliens. These are what we call waking dreams."

David Hufford, professor of humanities at Penn State medical school, said the cause is sleep paralysis. "Most people," he said, "will tell you, 'I woke up, I couldn't move. There was something frightening in the room with me. It wanted to do me harm.'"

"One person might say, 'So I think it was an alien.' Someone else might think it was an abominable snowman. That is a matter of inference from their culture."

Bill Ellis, a folklorist at Penn State, said he believed that all people have the same kind of dreams, but the way they express them conforms to their culture. "An ancient Greek might have seen it as going up with the Gods," he said. "In 20th century America, it is seen as being abducted by aliens."

In telling their stories, Mr. Ellis said, "abductees" resort to the images supplied by Hollywood and particularly by television. Pseudo-documentary programs like the "X-Files," in which a couple of FBI agents investigate alien happenings as routinely as though they were ordinary homicides, blur the line between fact and fiction.

... of TV travel programmes for almost 30 years, John Carter is facing his last sunset.

The 61-year-old *Wish You Were Here?* presenter has been told he is too old for the job.

He has been axed from the show and anchorwoman Judith Chalmers, also 61, is making room for 36-year-old Anthea Turner.

Last night Mr Carter — who created the BBC's *Holiday* programme in 1968 and has presented ITV's *Wish You Were Here?* for ten years — said: 'I am sad to be going and sorry it's ended like this.'

'I was told they want the show to appeal to a younger audience so they do not want a presenter who is a grandfather and there is absolutely nothing I can do about being old. I went into the office yesterday to be told there was no place for me in the new-style programme.'

The father-of-three, who has five grandchildren, added: 'The producer Kim Robson told me the bad news. This time last year I was told that instead of 18 assignments I would be on 11, and that was the first indication of what was to follow.'

'As I understand it, it was not the team at *Wish You Were Here?*, or its makers Thames, that made the decision.'

'As far as I am aware they were pressured into getting rid of me by Network Centre. The bosses there have been saying the

EXCLUSIVE
By ANNE SHOOTER
Showbusiness Reporter

programme needs to appeal to a more youthful audience. I think they are wrong. The programme appeals across the spectrum, as well as attracting the older viewers who are the people with the disposable income to buy the holidays.

'I hope the show will succeed in the new format but I feel it will not. It is becoming more of an entertainment show than an information show.'

'I'm not sure why it has to be changed. I know they need to

'John's pride took rather a pummelling'

attract different types of viewers to attract advertisers, but the ratings are not bad.'

In fact, at 10million, the viewing figures for *Wish You Were Here?* are higher than any other travel programme. Its closest competitor, BBC1's *Holiday* presented by Jill Dando, attracts between eight and nine million.

Channel 4 has launched several travel shows aimed at a younger audience, each with little ratings success. Gaby Roslin's *The Real Holiday Show* attracts 4.1million viewers, while *Lonely Planet* manages just 1.5million.

Mr Carter, who lives in Bromley, Kent, added: 'Last night I

came home and opened a bottle of champagne and my daughter came over and she said maybe this was the best thing for me, that I needed a kick up the backside. Maybe she is right. I have been on travel programmes for a long time and I suppose I am getting on.'

'I'm sure now I'll have time for more writing and radio work as well as being able to put more into the travel industry charity I'm helping to launch in May.'

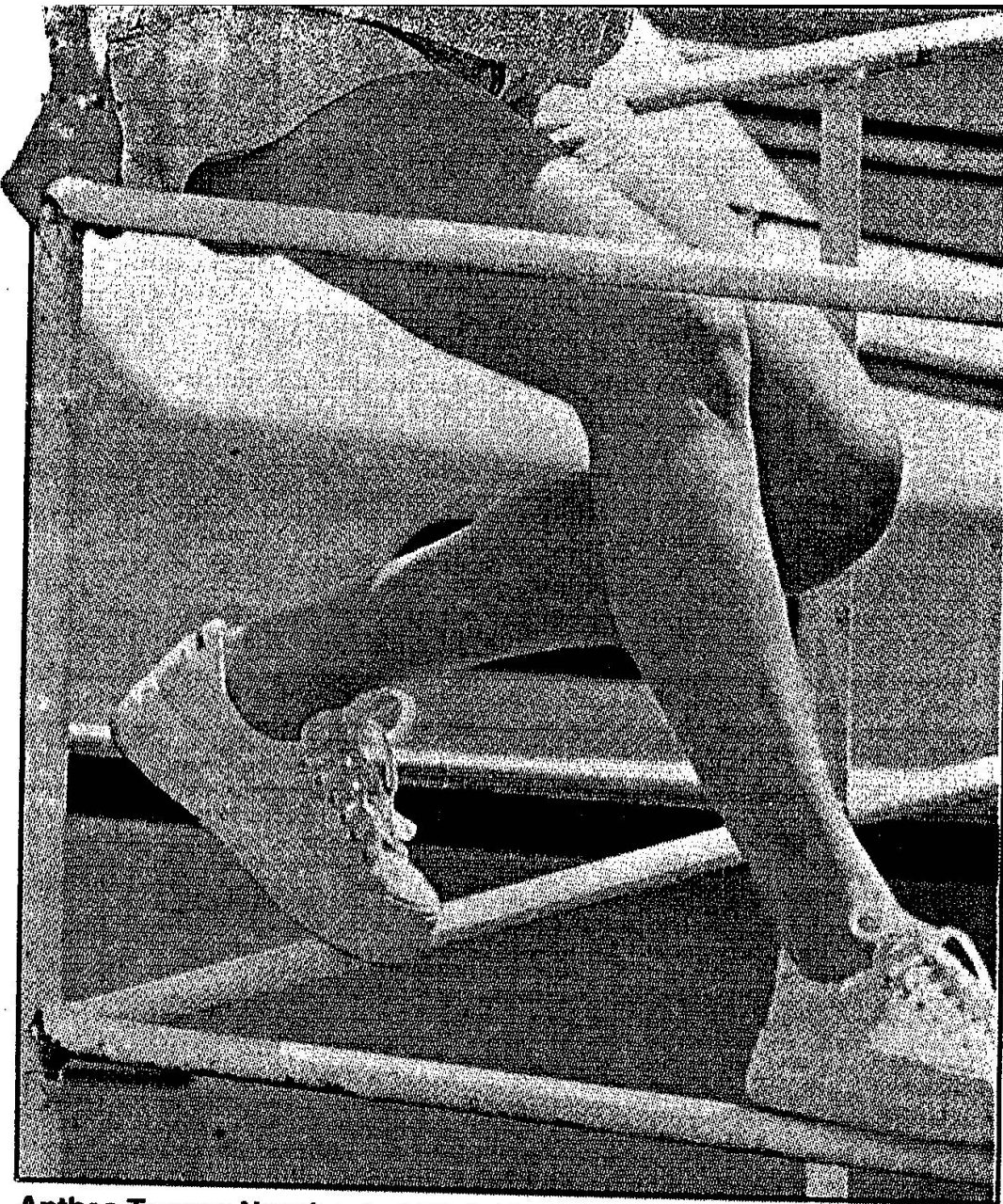
'I wish Miss Turner all the best. I've never worked with her but she did a story for us from South America and I understand it went well. I hear she is a very professional presenter and she seems quite a nice girl.'

A programme source said: 'John's pride certainly took rather a pummelling. It's very hard when someone tells you your writing ability is marvellous and you add a necessary authority to the show, and then says you're too old so none of that matters.'

'There has been the feeling for some time that the show should have a younger format and John couldn't fit into that plan.'

Following lengthy talks with programme-makers, Miss Chalmers will now present 11 holiday features a year while Miss Turner hosts the 20-part series.

Miss Chalmers said: 'I'm delighted to be spending more time at home. Now I will be away for about three months a year rather than six. I have worked for *Wish You Were Here?* for 24 years now and I can't imagine ever not being in it.'



Anthea Turner: New host of *Wish You Were Here?*

Sorry, ET, but the Pentagon says you do not exist

ET may be out there, but if he wants to make contact he will have to land on the White House lawn and seek a change of policy.

For the Pentagon is certain there is no such thing as an extra-terrestrial and that UFO sightings are all either figments of imagination or natural

phenomena. In fact, it has not investigated any sightings since 1969, it was disclosed yesterday.

The issue arose following the mass suicide of 39 members of the Heaven's Gate cult who believed they were linking up with a spacecraft tucked in the tail of the Hale-Bopp comet.

Pentagon spokesman Kenneth Bacon said the Air Force had investigated 12,618 sightings between 1947 and 1969 and found no evidence of extra-terrestrials, exotic technology or any threat to the United States.

Virtually all reports of flying saucers and other spacecraft

turned out to be explainable as aircraft or weather phenomena. 'We cannot substantiate that UFOs exist,' said Mr Bacon. There is not, however, total disregard for the possibility that aliens might fly by. America's Space Surveillance Centre still maintains a 24-hour watch, although its main duty is

identifying man-made space junk. In Britain, the Ministry of Defence still studies UFO reports in a department called Secretariat (Air Staff) 2a, recently highlighted by Nick Pope, a former administrator, in his book *Open Skies, Closed Minds*, serialised in the *Daily Mail* last year.

Daily Mail 3 April 1997

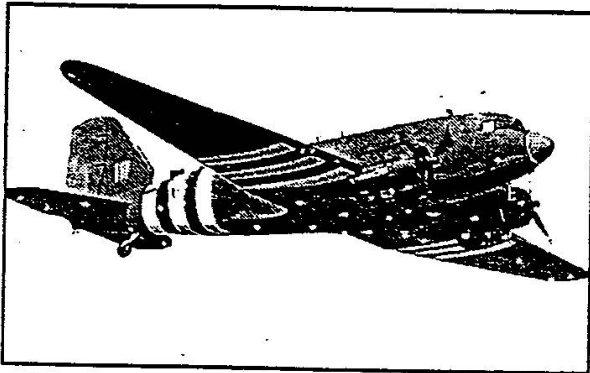
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Daily Mirror
26th March 1997
Page 11

WW2 GHOST PLANE RIDDLE ON MOORS



TRAGEDY: A Dakota crashed in wartime

SEARCH: Rescue teams join the hunt for the mystery plane

By STEVE DENNIS

A MYSTERY plane crash that vanished without trace left witnesses and rescuers baffled yesterday.

Locals dialled 999 after seeing the plane explode in flames as it hit a remote Yorkshire moor.

Emergency services from two counties launched a huge search on Monday night.

But despite scouring the moors for 24 hours, not one piece of wreckage was found.

Now people in Hope, South Yorks, are talking of a ghost plane after recalling an identical mystery

Rescuers can't find 'crash'

crash two years ago — on the 50th anniversary of a World War Two Dakota coming down nearby.

Witness Mariafrance Tattersfield, 39, a former special constable from nearby Sheffield, said: "I know what I saw. None of this adds up."

The search began after she and other witnesses reported a blinding orange flash and billowing smoke as the twin engined plane crashed on the Pennines above Hope Forest.

Fifty police from Yorkshire and

Derbyshire, fire and ambulance crews, more than 100 men and dogs from seven mountain rescue teams, an RAF helicopter and the West Yorks police helicopter joined in.

Police said: "It certainly is a mystery and extremely baffling — reliable witnesses clearly saw something go down."

The spot is just three miles from where the Dakota crashed in 1945, killing all seven Canadian crew.

Two years ago postman Tony Ingle, 53, reported seeing a Dakota crash in the same area.

But when he raced to the scene he found only grazing sheep.

He said: "I don't believe in ghosts and have racked my brains for explanation but there isn't one."

Bedfordshire on Sunday, March 9, 1997

20 64/5
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PIERRE WILLIAMS hears the news from space

The truth is out here

A SELF-STYLED UFO 'expert' took a £100 fee to tell a group of stargazers ...not a lot.

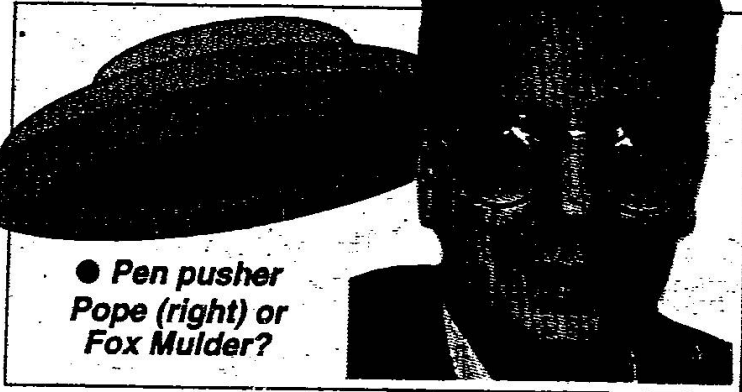
Nick Pope, who used to work at the Ministry of Defence, talked to Bedford UFOlogists on Tuesday night but according to former colleagues he has little specialist knowledge.

"He never was and in our view never will be an expert on UFOs," said an MoD spokesman after we asked for Mr Pope's UFO credentials.

"He was a low-grade civil servant filing letters telling of apparent UFO sightings. He knows what he thinks he knows."

Despite his alleged lack of knowledge, Mr Pope, 31, makes a comfortable living writing books and lecturing on the subject.

He managed about 30 lectures last year, with a dozen more planned and a trip to America to tell of his experiences.



● Pen pusher Pope (right) or Fox Mulder?

He said: "I have been called the real Fox Mulder (of X-Files fame), but that's another story."

Despite talking to the Bedford group for almost two hours at Edward Arnold Court, Emmerton Road, Mr Pope said little of significance.

He told the group that astronomers regularly saw UFOs but were reluctant to report them for fear of ridicule.

"There is a trickster-like quality about these objects - as if someone is leading us on. I am aware that Bedford has experienced its own UFO activity, especially over Chicksands base.

"If intelligent extraterrestrial visitors are travelling here they may

be coming to see what nasty little toys we have."

He also said it was 'quite a buzz' standing in corn circles.

When asked why UFOs were not intercepted by air force jets, Mr Pope said: "UFOs are stealthy. Our fighters are scrambled and the object has gone.

"Forget it - we're never going to catch one; these things are capable of a very quick getaway."

Ken Parsons of the Kempston branch of the British Earth and Aerial Mysteries Society (BEAMS) said of Mr Pope: "He was quite guarded in what he was saying and didn't come up with anything new - but we got our money's worth."

"You can fool some of the people all of the time and all of the people some of the time, but you can't fool all of the people all of the time."

Abraham Lincoln

FROM FROM CRO WALES

03.03.1997 13:20

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REF

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE,
RAF COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICER (WALES)

Room 2-04 New Dolanog House
Severn Road Welshpool Powys SY21 7DA

Tel : 01938 556363
GPTN & Fax: Worcester MOD X1490

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

To: [Redacted] (Sec AS 2b)
Room, 8245

From: [Redacted]

Date: 3.3.97

Number of Pages Sent (Including Cover Sheet): 2

Message/Subject:

*Thought you might be interested
in this little snippet which was
in the Western Mail today.*

[Redacted]

PLEASE ADVISE PROMPTLY IF TRANSMISSION IS ILLEGIBLE OR INCOMPLETE

The Western Mail

Monday, 3 March 1997

BRIEFLY

UFO petition

THE West Wales Paranormal group is organising a petition to get a Government response about a number of UFO sightings over Cardigan Bay last November.

Half a dozen separate accounts of a mysterious black triangle craft in the skies on November 21 were logged by the group and there were numerous other sightings of mysterious lights in the sky.

END

64/5

28 FEB 97
THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

NEWS

PRINT FOR FASTER JUSTICE

Automatic right to jury trial

Should deal with...
 ● Report recommends free legal advice for guilty pleas

cases because they considered the offence too minor to merit further action.

The CPS would also be obliged to provide an on-call service at weekends and evenings and would have greater administrative back-up in reviewing files.

LEGAL REPRESENTATION

To speed up the process once a trial gets to court the report recommends changing the way legal aid and representation is provided.

Where defendants promise to plead guilty they would be given free legal advice on the morning of the court appearance regardless of whether they were entitled to legal aid.

However, if defendants pleading guilty want their own lawyer they will no longer be able to delay proceedings until he is available. The court would impose a duty solicitor on them if their own

choice could not be made available in time.

MAGISTRATES' COURT

More powers would be given to Clerks to the Justices to manage pre-trial hearings. Only when the cases were ready for trial would they go before magistrates who would decide only on bail, guilt and sentences.

The clerks would be given many new powers including the right to extend bail, dismiss cases when no evidence was offered, request pre-sentence reports in guilty pleas and arrange the timetable for the proceedings. Defendants could appeal against any decision to the magistrates if they felt it unfair.

TRIAL BY JURY

The most controversial recommendation involves taking away the defendant's right to insist on trial by jury when a magistrate decided the case should be tried

summarily in a magistrates' court. This applies to those cases classified as "either way" offences which could be tried in either court.

In the year to September 1996, 24,170 defendants in this category chose a Crown Court trial, often in the hope that they might have a greater chance of acquittal. This amounted to around a quarter of all the cases tried at Crown Court.

But two-thirds of them later pleaded guilty, wasting considerable money and three-quarters of all defendants electing for jury trial were later convicted.

The report recommends that the defendant lose the absolute right to demand a jury trial against the recommendation of the magistrate.

It estimates that the proposal would result in 18,000 of the 24,000 cases being heard in the lower court.

Critics argue that for someone of good character even a minor conviction for dishonesty can have a grave impact on their reputation and so they should be

entitled to a jury trial. The report accepted that this might be taken into consideration by the magistrate but quoted one who said he could not remember the last time someone had chosen a jury trial "for reasons of reputation".

This could save up to £70 million, it is estimated.

Also recommended is that serious cases like murder which were certain to go to the Crown Court should go straight there rather than spend half their life in magistrates' court.

By completing cases more quickly it should also "reduce prisoner escapes".

YOUTH COURTS

The report recommends reversing the 1991 Criminal Justice Act which placed 17-year-olds in the jurisdiction of the youth courts.

It suggests they be returned to the adult courts as "they tend to be experienced as offenders". This would affect 35,000 cases. Those youths receiving cautions or conditional discharges could have conditions attached to them.

Editorial Comment: Page 29

Picture: ALLSPORT

Court ruling paves way for sportsmen to challenge bans

By Will Bennett

A RUGBY international won a landmark legal ruling yesterday paving the way for sportsmen to challenge disciplinary decisions by regulatory bodies in the courts.

Mark Jones, a 16-stone forward, was granted an injunction lifting his suspension for fighting during a match until his appeal has been heard.

The case marks an important extension of legal intervention in sporting disputes. In the past judges have been reluctant to get involved in disciplinary matters.

More challenges are expected after Mrs Justice Ebsworth told the High Court that disciplinary decisions now affected the livelihoods of professional players.

Jones, who plays for Ebbw Vale, was sent off after a



Mrs Justice Ebsworth: bans affect players' careers

but the new professional Welsh Rugby Union was

IN BRIEF

BBC admits error over campaign

The BBC admitted last night that it was wrong to allow Ben Bradshaw, one of its reporters, to campaign for Labour while on paid leave.

Mr Bradshaw, 36, was suspended from Radio 4's *The World At One* to ensure impartiality after his selection as Labour candidate for Exeter last September. He could not be found alternative work and was released on full pay, prompting Tory complaints.

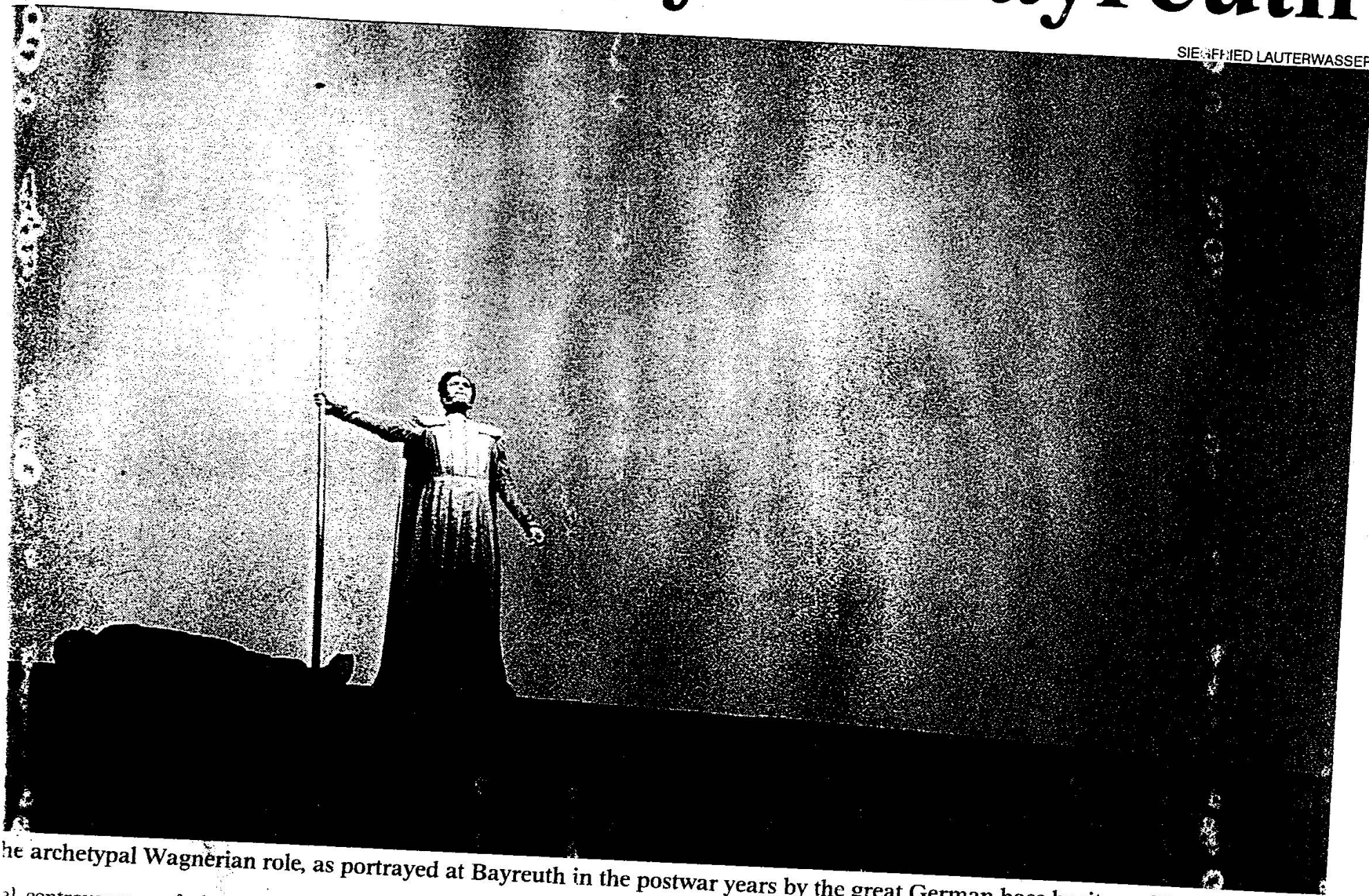
Admiral warns of 'Satanic aliens'

Aliens are among us and are under Satanic control, according to UFO Concern, a predominantly Anglican pressure group founded by Lord Hill-Norton, a retired Admiral of the Fleet and former Chief of Defence staff.

Lord Hill-Norton has written to interested parties about the threat, says the *Church Times*. He claims UFO incidents have been covered up.

Isabelle Lucas

rages over keys to Bayreuth



the archetypal Wagnerian role, as portrayed at Bayreuth in the postwar years by the great German bass-baritone, Hans Hotter

al controversy. Semitism does part in Nike's helps her Wolfgang deli- c. She is the Ireland whom to agree had tic talent than accuses her g a witches' (ksberg) out of ch the ghosts

of the past are summoned again and again. Nike, whose qualifications are those of a musical critic rather than director, proposed that the Wagner festival be staged every two years instead of annually to allow new ideas to develop.

The conventional comparison of the Bayreuth succession contest is with the antics of the Ewing family in the *Dallas* soap opera. The family, and

the plot, are indeed tangled. Wolfgang considers both Nike and her brother, Wolf-Siegfried (a talented stage director), to be disloyal and unworthy of Bayreuth. Even as a child Gottfried was banned from playing with them.

Eva, Wolfgang's daughter by his first marriage, is a talent scout for the Metropolitan Opera in New York but

she, too, is not considered a worthy successor by Wolfgang. Gottfried's lasting concern with Wagner's anti-Semitism seems to exclude him. The most likely member of the family to take over after Wolfgang's death is his second wife, Gudrun.

Bayreuth need not be controlled by a Wagner. The festival is managed by a public foundation with an

elected board. But five out of 24 seats are reserved for Wagner family members and they, or rather Wolfgang, usually carry the day. His rule is crumbling, however, and like King Lear the king of Bayreuth is stumbling on blindly, banishing his children, disinheriting and pronouncing curses. This, say Wagnerians, will be the year that the fourth generation strikes back.

ests

Pentagon 'UFO' site revealed on film

THE Pentagon is bracing itself for calls from conspiracy theorists after news that Area 51, a top-secret site where the American Government tests stealth aircraft and is alleged to have held captured UFOs, has been revealed on camera (Anjana Ahuja writes).

The film, made in 1964, does not record details of the site but shows a scientist chalking on a blackboard the phrase

"move out to Area 51". The authorities have never acknowledged the site, and often deny its existence.

The footage was uncovered by Hugh McDaid while shooting *Robot Warriors*, a documentary on unmanned aircraft.

According to Mr McDaid, the film was a top-secret briefing film for military and intelligence personnel. The scientist shown writing on the blackboard was

Clarence "Kelly" Johnson, who designed the Lockheed U2 spy plane.

The refusal of the USAF to confirm or deny anything regarding the site has fuelled speculation that it is a cover for something more sinister than testing new aircraft. Some believe the US Government has captured flying saucers and used the base to conduct experiments on the vehicles and their inhabitants.

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Observer
December 1996

The Men In Black are out there. But who are they? ^{R7} And why did they kill Beethoven?

Strange things can happen anywhere, even in Birmingham. Cynthia Appleton lived in Birmingham and strange things certainly happened to her. If they had occurred today, her experiences would probably merit only half a footnote in the UFO literature; with interest in the extra-terrestrial now at an all-time high, alien encounters seem to be ten-a-penny. Back in 1957, however, a native of Venus materialising in a West Midlands living room was on the unique side.

And yet, nearly four decades on from Cynthia's frequent encounters, what interests the ufologists is not what the visitor had to say, or how he said it, but his tailoring. 'Cynthia Appleton's is the first British encounter with one of the Men In Black,' says leading UFO researcher Jenny Randles. The Venusian, you see, came in black suit, tie and homburg hat. He was, in short, a particularly well-dressed alien.

No one could claim that the Men In Black - or MIBs, as the aficionados call them - have been thronging Britain's streets ever since. Reports remain resolutely few and far between. But interest in this little-talked-about aspect of the UFO phenomenon is definitely on the up. Next year, the fortieth anniversary of Cynthia's encounter, sees the publication of a new book by Randles that explores the history and myth of the MIBs. The Internet is now groaning with thousands of pages dedicated to their activities; including a new on-line magazine titled *MIB*. There's also a major Hollywood movie called, simply, *Men In Black*, starring Tommy Lee Jones and Will Smith, due for release in the spring. Hell, why not beat the rush and prepare your wardrobe now? Buy yourself a black suit, white shirt, black tie and hat. No self-respecting follower of kooky fashion will be without them next year.

In truth, Cynthia Appleton's experience was decidedly atypical. In the classic MIB scenario, the visitor is not identifiably an alien in a suit (although there are many suggestions that they may be), and they are rarely as friendly or open as Cynthia said hers was. As befits individuals who like to wear officious-looking outfits and drive around in big, black scary cars, their common currency is threat and menace. They are generally accused of trying to scare the bejesus out of anybody who reports a UFO sighting and, while no one has come up with a plausible theory as to where they come from or where they go back to when they disappear, they stand accused of being part of a massive conspiracy to cover up The Truth.

The Truth being, of course, that aliens have long been here but that they don't want us to know. Hence, in the forthcoming movie, Tommy Lee Jones and Will Smith play members of a top secret organisation established to monitor and police

alien activity on Earth. To the lover of the paranormal and bizarre, that is their appeal. For a long time all thought has been on the UFO; on what, as *The X Files* puts it, is 'Out There'. The myth of the MIB is fundamentally different. They aren't out there, at all. They are Here, among us.

Which is why theories about MIBs often go far beyond involvement in the simple mechanics of UFO sightings. In this millennial age where the end of the world is said to be nigh - or if not nigh then at least due the day after nigh - the MIBs are now being fingered for much, much more. Ask around a bit and you will soon find people willing to accuse them of everything from murdering Beethoven, through to Stalin's purges, to detonating the Oklahoma bomb. No wonder they keep their heads down.

Nevertheless, the first account of MIB activities was decidedly UFO-related and it happened in America. (Well, what did you expect? Belgium?) Shortly after World War II, Albert K. Bender had founded the grandly titled International Flying Saucer Bureau, an organisation dedicated to the belief that UFOs were craft from outer space. And why not? While it only boasted a few hundred members, it did manage to publish a magazine called *Space Review*. The edition of October 1953 made curious reading: In it, Bender claimed that the authorities had solved the mystery of the flying saucers and were soon to reveal all. He said he would like to publish the evidence but had been told he could not. Shortly after that, Bender closed down both his magazine and his organisation.

When asked by his local paper for an explanation, he said he had been visited by 'three men wearing dark suits' and driving a Cadillac, who had simply ordered him to stop printing material on UFOs. They had, he said, scared him so much that he 'couldn't actually eat for a couple of days'. At first, he claimed they were members of the US government. Later, however, he changed his story: now they were dreadful aliens in human disguise who had come to Earth to suck up lots of sea water, which they needed for some great alien project. This version of events rather undermined Bender's credibility in the eyes of many researchers.

Other US sightings have been equally bizarre. In 1976, a doctor by the name of Herbert Hopkins from Maine, who had become involved with investigating a UFO sighting, was visited by a man claiming to be a member of another UFO research organisation. The visitor wore the classic uniform: black suit, tie and hat and a white shirt. But when he took his hat off he revealed he had no hair at all. And when he brushed his hand across his lips it appeared he was wearing lipstick, which smudged desperately. As they talked, his conversation slowed until he claimed his 'energy was running low' and that he had to leave. Before he departed he told the good doctor to destroy all his research material on UFO sightings -

with which request Hopkins complied. Scared? Dr Hopkins was.

Most American MIBs have been described as being of similarly bizarre appearance: by turns Asian or Oriental, but with eyes that glow golden or green; or skin so yellow it shimmered or so pale it appeared translucent. They have talked in numbers or in code to each other and presented military ID cards for people who later turned out not to exist. One MIB was minus an arm (poor MIB). Another had wires coming out of his flesh. They have apparently hypnotised their witnesses and threatened them, but never do they seem to have made good on such threats. Oh, and they have always driven about in those huge black cars. The assumption among less sceptical US investigators has always been that these were aliens trying to encourage witnesses not to say another word about the UFOs they had spotted.

For national pride, it may be reassuring to know that, aside from the Cynthia Appleton case, British MIBs have always been rather less bizarre. Sure, Britain has reports of the weird. But our weird is less weird than their weird. 'Here, it has almost always been perceived that these people were from the Government,' says Jenny Randles, who has uncovered about a dozen cases from the past 40 years for her book. 'In three quarters of cases they show ID. And they have always seemed to visit people who sighted UFOs where something away from the norm occurred. Where a door on the UFO was said to have opened or closed in a peculiar way. Something like that. The point is, it was always very easy to dismiss these MIBs as men from the Intelligence Services. It could be that. Or maybe in Britain we just invent stories with less panache.'

In the Sixties, a Carlisle fireman called Jim Templeton photographed what looked like some alien creature out on the moors, hovering over his young daughter's shoulder, as aliens are probably wont to do of a Sunday. Jim was later visited by two MIBs who drove him back to the scene in their Jaguar, asked him about the weather at the time, how the wildlife had reacted and then tried to get him to confess that actually he had merely taken

'Albert said he was visited by three men in dark suits driving a Cadillac. Later, he claimed they were aliens in human disguise who had come to Earth to suck up lots of sea water'

a snap of an ordinary bloke out walking his dog. When Jim refused to agree any such thing, the MIBs became very angry and eventually climbed back into their cars and drove off, leaving him to hike five miles home.

Then there was the couple in the Eighties who saw a UFO near a top secret military base up on the moors in Yorkshire. When they tried to call a press conference to explain what they had seen, two MIBs arrived in a large (black) car, flashed Ministry of Defence ID cards and told the press to leave. The MoD later denied the two men had anything to do with them.

'I strongly suspect,' says Randles, 'that most MIB cases here, maybe 99 out of 100, would never get reported. In my experience, most people who have had an experience view it in some way as absurd. And obviously the more bizarre it is, the less likely they are to want to discuss it. Also, the comments MIBs make to witnesses are phrased in ways which would encourage people not to talk about any of it. They say, oh people will just laugh at you. Or they are told it's a matter of national security so they don't say a word.'

But exactly who are the MIBs? Randles has a theory. 'My view is that there is a department within the Ministry of Defence which takes UFOs more seriously than they are letting on. For the vast majority of sightings - say 95 per cent - there is an explanation. But occasionally reports will come along that can't be explained away and then they have to go out and interact with the witnesses.'

To do so, she says, they have appropriated the US myth and folklore of the MIBs. It would be a great cover for carrying out bizarre investigations. And they would get to drive around in really natty black Jaguars. Nice work if you can get it.

Nick Pope disputes Randles's explanation. But then you would expect him to. For three years, Pope was the man in the MoD who was employed to sit at a desk sifting through and collating reports of UFOs from all over the country. At the end of his three years he claimed to have been converted from sceptic to believer. Accordingly, this summer he published a book called *Open Skies, Closed Minds* which stated that we were indeed being

visited by alien spacecraft. Just to prove what a jolly nice place the MoD happens to be, he's still employed there, though he's no longer on UFO watch.

'The MIBs are certainly a part of UFO folklore,' he says now. 'But personally I can't help thinking that it's all part of urban myth. I never once had a case where somebody phoned up and said who were those strange people you sent round to my house? And I handled 300 cases a year.'

'If there are MIBs out there, then I suspect they are merely Walter Mitty characters who like to dress up. You know, like those people who pretend to be policemen or doctors. Sometimes when I go to UFO conferences I see people dressed in black sitting in the front rows furiously taking notes. I think they are just people who like wearing black and being mysterious.' Of course, if Nick Pope was Mr MIB, he's hardly likely to admit it now, is he? In the world of UFOs and conspiracy theories, you have to keep your wits about you.

Still, we are in need of a solid explanation, something to help us plough a reasonable furrow through the mound of rumour and myth piling up before us. Well, there is one. It's a bit bizarre. Which is to say, a bit more bizarre than anything so far (more bizarre even, than aliens with green eyes, one arm and lipstick). But it's worth looking at, inasmuch as any of this is worth looking at. The theory is this: the MIBs are the manifestation of evil from unseen realities who come into this world to prey on our souls.

See? It all makes perfect sense.

Leslie Kenton lives in the kind of place where you can imagine that Things happen, and that's definitely Things with a capital 'T'. Here in deepest West Wales, the sea crashes its brow against the dark, fractured cliffs and the wind tugs and pulls at the hedgerows and trees so that every plant leans away in one direction as if trying to escape the advancing shore. It's the perfect place for a Californian woman like Kenton.

Now in her fifties, she has lived in Britain for years, first as a health and beauty journalist, now writing books on alternative health and ageing, forever directing her faithful readers to replace the refined foods and lifestyles of the late twentieth century with the natural and unsullied.

If she is particularly famous for anything, it is for eating the placenta after her last child was born, to help her get in touch with her womanhood. This gives you an idea of the territory she occupies.

Kenton is relevant because, three years ago, she published a long (very long) novel called *Ludwig*. It argued that Beethoven gained his musical powers from the gods and that, because he refused to put his divine composition skills at the service of a devilish conspiracy to subvert the will of mankind, he was poisoned by the Men In Black.

It is easy to ridicule Leslie Kenton - but that doesn't mean it is the wrong thing to

do. On the question of the MIBs and the demons, she claims not to be burdened by faith or belief in their existence. 'I know about them because I have experienced these things.'

So had she actually met any MIBs? 'I've never had three men turn up at my door with a black Cadillac. But that's because I don't think they would dare.'

'There are unseen realities,' she says. 'And I think the Men In Black are manifestations from those unseen realities. They trade in fear. I suspect there are non-human beings feeding off the human life force and that, when they find people whose soul has become separated from their intellect, they become easy prey to these non-human beings.'

These poor, dislocated individuals are then the protagonists behind conspiracy and, just to jolly them along, the MIBs occasionally appear out of the unseen realities to keep the conspiracy on course. And, when necessary, kill people like Beethoven.

Enough, already.

The MIB myth is a variation of the modern conspiracy theory; the idea of some greater truth being hidden from the mass. In September, *The New American* magazine, mouthpiece of the right-wing John Birch Society, dedicated an issue to the 'Conspiracy for Global Control'.

In his introduction to the edition, William Jasper argues that criminal conspiracies to control mankind are as ancient as history itself. There is now, he says, 'a communist conspiracy. Communism has been, and remains, the single most dramatically significant phenomenon of our century.' In this vast and uniquely entertaining conspiracy theory, the United Nations is the motor of a campaign for world domination. It has, he claims, become an organisation as evil as Spectre in James Bond movies and will eventually take over the world and enslave us all.

In the course of his argument, Jasper claims that this virulent conspiracy is responsible for - take a deep breath now - the machinations of the Mafia, the rule of Al Capone in Chicago, the rise of Stalin, the rise of Hitler and hence the Holocaust, the multi-billion dollar drugs cartels, the rise of Islamic fundamentalism, the shooting of Pope John Paul II in 1981, the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin and the Oklahoma City bombing (the last two in an attempt to discredit the radical Right, who would be - and were - blamed.)

So, what is the truth? After all of this, there are just two options. The first is that aliens have made contact, the MIBs have been sent out to shut up the people who know this, demons are trying to control our souls, and the communists, despite all the setbacks of recent years, are working to take over the world.

The second is that, as the millennium approaches, certain portions of humanity have decided to be just a little more bonkers than usual.

I know which I favour.



Fortean Times

64/5 Nov '96

ENCLOSURE
15

reviews

CLIMBING MOUNT IMPROBABLE

Richard Dawkins



Dawkins is one of the world's leading popularisers of Darwinism, producing a series of effortlessly lucid books explaining evolution. He has an even tone and proceeds by telling illuminating parables drawn from the natural world. In this he is really the anti-Lyall Watson. Both write in the same, calm authoritative manner,

anticipating and addressing the readers' objections just before they voice them, and using keen observations of nature as the backbone of their argument. However, while Watson deals in vague truisms and is blissed out on mystic wonderment, Dawkins

mercilessly to skewer facts and tease out the biological mechanisms that underlie the behaviours, and fascinating stuff it is too.

Mount Improbable is basically a rewrite of his most successful book *The Blind Watchmaker*, in which he used computer simulations to model evolution and natural selection. The same programmes are still called into use here to make the same points - that the popular idea of evolution as a random process is wrong. The objections to it - based on the impossibility of complex structures evolving - are mistaken and the Neodarwinist model of evolution can explain all life as we know it. Here he retreads his explanation of the evolution of the eye, comparing the perception and the truth of the process to a mountain which has an impossibly sheer face on one side and a gentle slope round the back - *Mount Improbable*. He then replays the argument from other angles, using as examples such phenomena as spider webs and fig wasp behaviour. Some classic Fortean - such as simulacra and the frog with its eyes in its mouth - pop up throughout. Dawkins makes a convincing and seamless case for his beliefs, ably illustrated by his (former Dr Who assistant) wife, Lalla Ward-Dawkins.

He does at times take a lofty and slightly patronising tone, a smugly sceptical "we really do know everything" attitude that undermines his status as an open-minded investigator. His excellence as a writer can make you almost forget that some of Dawkins' views are considered a bit extreme, even by fellow Darwinists. He is a strong advocate of the selfish gene principle, which sees all life and behaviour as fundamentally determined by the need of genes to perpetuate themselves and nothing else - a view that few other scientists support to that degree. This does not detract from the essential clarity and logic of his arguments; they are hard to fault and more

than enough to crush legions of fuddled creationists into the dust from which they believe God made them.

LONDON: VIKING, 1996. HB £20, pp308, INDEX, BIB, FIGS, PLATES. ISBN 0-670-85018-7.

IAN SIMMONS

OPEN SKIES, CLOSED MINDS

Nick Pope

It might seem fatuous to review a book that's been hovering around the top five of the bestseller lists for some weeks, but there's always the hope that someone out there will be prevented from letting ex-Civil Servant Nick Pope have a close encounter with their wallet. One can pass over the foreword by Timothy Good in discreet silence except to note that he is sure Pope's book "will do much to dispel the myth that UFOs are a ridiculous nonsense". If only it were a myth, and if only Pope did.

He deserves credit for having bothered to read up on UFOs once he landed the job of dealing with sighting reports at the Ministry of Defence, and for taking the time to interview witnesses. Unfortunately, he seems to have been caught up in the hothouse of British ufology in the process, with the result either that his brains cooked or he left them in Whitehall. His account of historic cases worldwide begins with the ritual quotation from Ezekiel (groan), and goes so far downhill that he calls Erich von Däniken an archaeologist. Pope cheerily takes virtually every wild claim ever made about UFOs as grist to his mill, from the airship wave of 1897 and Roswell to the Area 51 hokum, never once addressing the reams of critical literature on the cases he adduces. One suspects he simply hasn't read it.

The photo section is full of fake pictures that are never identified as such. His skimpy, sceptic-free bibliography includes one of ufology's most unhinged books, Linda Moulton Howe's *An Alien Harvest*. This, presumably, caused him to call cattle mutilations "a proven fact" - which they are, but not in any ufological sense. He even goes so far as to claim that the Belgian "triangles" seen in 1990 correlated with radar targets, when even the most vociferous proponent of that mildly farcical event admitted they did not.

The level of his thinking is shown well enough by his answer to the question "Why don't aliens land on the White House lawn?". "Aliens may well be aware that the White House is surrounded by controlled airspace," he explains, apparently with a straight face, and "the barrage of secret service agents and their firepower would be awesome".

It's not surprising that a polite silence greeted Pope's suggestion that the MoD should draw up contingency plans for war with the aliens. What's really depressing about this book is not that it has become a best seller, but that no one at Simon &

Schuster saw fit, or knew enough, to throw it back for a re-write. Emphatically not one for your bookshelf, unless you're studying human irrationality - or closed minds.

LONDON: SIMON & SCHUSTER, 1996.

HB £14.99, pp270. INDEX, BIB, APPENDICES, PHOTOS. ISBN 0-684-81664-4.

PETER BROOKESMITH

SCIENTIFIC DECEPTION

Lesley Grayson



Published by the British Library, this is one of its Keynote series giving an overview of the literature in various active policy areas. It is indicative of the path that modern science is taking that a volume on scientific deception should be up there with ones on environmental audit and science parks, as five years ago such a thing would have been unthinkable. Until recently,

the science establishment has considered deception to be a relatively minor problem, committed by isolated mavericks and easily revealed. It is significant that most of the literature cited is post-1990. In the nineties, realisation has dawned that scientific fraud has been much more widespread and subtle than people had been pretending and that a more organised approach to dealing with it was required; hence this volume.

It is, basically, an annotated bibliography. It begins with a well thought out and penetrating look at the culture of science, accepting that science is not purely an impartial way of looking at the universe but also a social construct articulated by participants in the process. It then surveys fraudulent behaviour, citing a fascinating range of relevant literature, which takes in volumes well outside mainstream scientific literature, such as Richard Milton's *Forbidden Science*.

It encompasses much of Fortean interest, above and beyond the consideration of scientific fallibility, including archaeological faking (such as Piltdown Man and Schliemann's Troy), Cold Fusion, Pasteur as a deceptionist, the first AIDS victim and the way established scientists prevent the publication of radical ideas.

It is a surprisingly easy read for a science policy document and provides an excellent window into how science works and how it can go wrong.

BRITISH LIBRARY, LONDON, 1995, PB £24.50, \$37.40, pp107, INDEX, BIB. ISBN: 0-7123-0831-8.

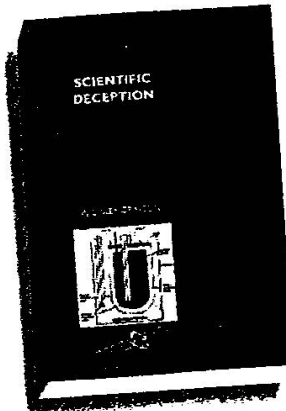
IAN SIMMONS

THE ENCHANTED LAND

Janet and Colin Bord



Regular readers of the authors' 'Secret Country' feature in *FT* will know precisely what to expect and they are not disappointed. Newcomers to the writing of Britain's most venerable brace of geographical folklorists are treated to their knowledgeable and eclectic collections of local lore, organised usefully in chapters



The Herald
Glasgow
11 November 1996

Professor believes the military might be responsible for incident over the Hebrides

US investigates air explosion²

AMERICAN military scientists are investigating a mysterious mid-air explosion two weeks ago off the Outer Hebrides.

A British scientist contacted by the Americans believes the blast could have been caused by the military.

The development comes at a time when former White House adviser Pierre Salinger is claiming that a stray American missile shot down the TWA jumbo jet over New York in July, killing all 230 people on board.

Now US military scientists

from Sandia National Laboratories — which operates spy satellites — in Albuquerque, New Mexico, are hoping to pinpoint the object which caused the mid-air explosion off the north of Lewis.

Why the Americans have become involved is as much a mystery as the cause of the explosion, but it gives new force to those who suspect the military were the cause of the explosion over Ness.

It is known that Britain's missile tracking station at Fylingdales and its American

counterpart in Virginia both investigated the incident.

The military has denied it was involved in causing the explosion but a Nato exercise, involving more than 30 ships and 80 aircraft, started in the area two days later. It finished on Friday and involved American warships, including the frigate Aubrey Fitch.

This week Defence Secretary Michael Portillo said his Ministry was "unaware" of any military activity in the area of the blast, but Western Isles MP Calum Macdonald described

the reply as "not a definitive answer" and said he would continue to push to find out if non-British military could have been responsible.

The SNP claims it has information that a naval frigate was seen off the west coast of Lewis uplifting wreckage from the area, as if she was involved in some covert recovery operation.

There is an unconfirmed report of a military Lynx helicopter being secretly involved in the initial two-day £200,000 search after the explosion. The Defence Ministry says it has no

record of the aircraft being involved.

Now the US military scientists have contacted the Armagh Observatory in Northern Ireland, the country's leading astronomical research centre for fireballs and similar objects, for information on the explosion.

They particularly want to pinpoint the exact time of the explosion to check pictures of spy satellites trained on the earth to look for nuclear and other missile explosions.

The technology involves differentiating between natural

phenomena such as meteorites and man-made explosions like missiles.

Professor Mark Bailey, the observatory director, admitted he was puzzled.

"I am torn between this being caused by the military, such as target practice, and a natural phenomenon such as a fireball," he said.

"I am hoping to be told the results of the American investigation. But it all hinges on getting an exact time of the explosion to see if a satellite was trained on that particular area

at that particular time. This is a very strange incident indeed."

Meanwhile, SNP parliamentary leader Margaret Ewing is being asked to raise in the Commons the possibility of military involvement being behind the explosion.

The party's Western Isles parliamentary candidate, Dr Anne Lorne Gillies, has forwarded a full report to SNP defence spokesman Colin Campbell.

UFO expert Nick Pope is also investigating — he believes the explosion could have been extra terrestrial.

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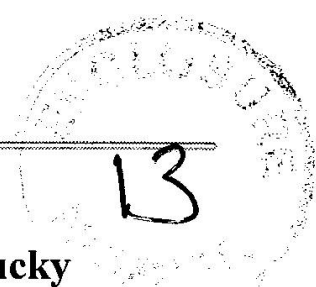
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Hokoko!

ENCOUNTERS

UFO Silence



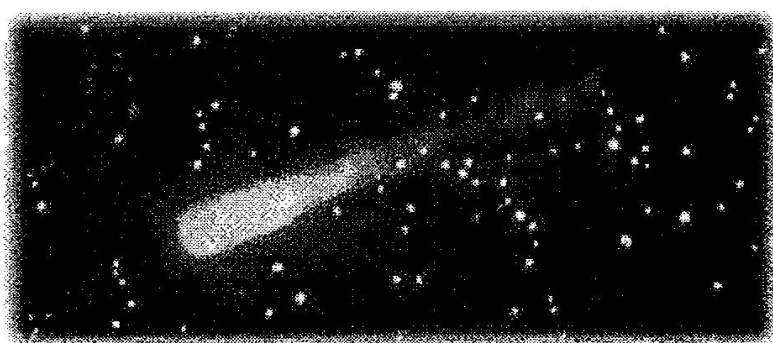
You could easily be mistaken for believing that Americans are the only ones lucky enough to be plagued by crashed saucers. Jonathon Dillon looks into Britain's UFO history and asks whether the British Government is simply more experienced at the old cover-up routine.

The British Government holds the dubious honour of being the most secretive in the First World despite promises to be more open with the public. The USA, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, France, Denmark, Holland and a host of other countries have a Freedom of Information Act, which over the last few years has enabled investigators all over the world to explore thousands of hitherto classified documents and papers which refer to the UFO subject. By these governments' own admission, thousands more documents are being withheld in the 'interests of National Security' proving without doubt, that the subject is of great interest and seriousness to the world's elected leaders.

But our own government keeps quiet about everything and the general public can only gain access to documentation released under terms of the 30, 75 or 100 year ruling. These papers flow from the Air Ministry, RAF and Ministry of Defence, and roughly amount to just a dozen already released files covering the period 1950 to 1964. Now with the arrival of the Scott Report, the need for a British Freedom of Information Act is more than evident.



Sadly, Her Majesty's Government will be amongst the last to willingly confess to the fact that our airspace is being penetrated regularly, by unusual intelligently controlled devices, that are way beyond our cutting edge technology. However, there seems to have been a turnabout on the part of the authorities in recent years, with more and more credible military personnel, government officials and people in power coming forward to tell of their UFO experiences. Through the hard work of many UFO investigators across the country, it has been disclosed that several Ministry of Defence departments at Whitehall and the Armed Services have been, and continue to be, actively engaged in covert research into UFOs.



According to several informers, investigations have been carried out by the Royal Air Force, The Defence Intelligence Staff (DI55) and the Directorate of Scientific and Technical Intelligence. The DIS in particular, is a mixed organisation of serving officers and civilian research staff, scientific staff and linguists headed by the Chief of Defence Intelligence (CDI). This essential element of the government's central intelligence machinery has several tasks to

perform and it evaluates a range of studies. One of its most important duties is to concentrate on UFO reports. Basically, some reports are handled by the Provost and Security Police Special Investigators who are attached to the Flying Complaints Flight Base at RAF Rudloe Manor.

Classic
Selective
quoting

Stimulating news, which has been a long time coming, just came to light recently, with the shock admission by the MOD's Kerry Philpott, of Secretariat Air Staff 2a (the MOD UFO desk), that RAF Rudloe Manor was indeed a co-ordination point for reports of UFOs. This facility is known to be staffed by senior non-commissioned officers trained in numerous methods of special investigations. MI5 also works with Rudloe. Much of the collaboration relates to Rudloe's work in checking the

MI5 also works with Rudloe. Much of the collaboration relates to Rudloe's work in checking the credentials of RAF employees who work with classified data. They keep bulky files on RAF employees with "highly subversive" interests, Animal Rights, Nuclear Disarmament, Liberty etc. It is not known for certain whether or not the Security Services take on UFO matters, but according to an ex-MI5 employee I managed to interview, they do monitor the activities of individual UFO investigators and civilian UFO research groups.

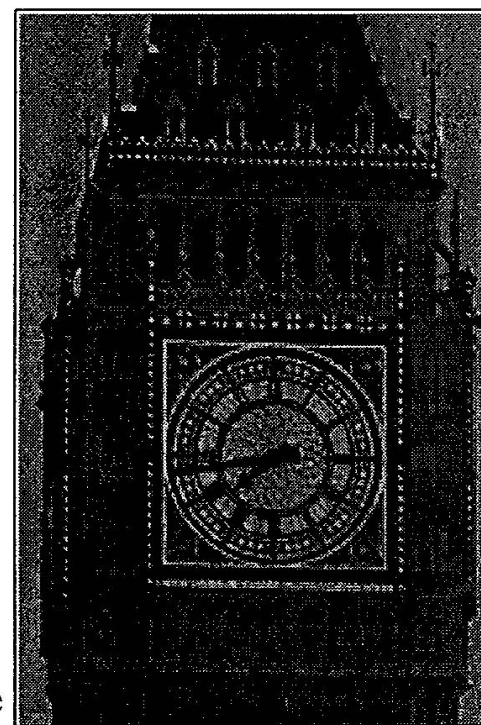
The reports that come into the MOD are sent to DI55 who then forward them to the Director of Security and Provost Marshall (RAF) in London, who in turn will inform an infrastructure of other departments such as Air Force operations and Airborne early warning/ground environment. Some of these organisations are amongst the most well developed military systems in the modern world.

Additional research has exposed an international liaison with other foreign intelligence authorities such as the American NSA, CIA, US Air Force Office of Special Investigation and the State Department's Office of Security Assistance, Science and Technology. The Defence Intelligence Liaison branch of the MOD (DIALL) provides this affiliation through the Government Communications Head Quarters.

Intense Government interest in the UFO topic doesn't end with the MOD's preoccupation. According to my source, the Home Office plays an operative role, sustaining teeming computer files on the subject. The MOD's Air Staff 2a has computerised UFO files, but most of them are pretty innocent. Nick Redfern, an outstanding Intelligence researcher, told me the database held by the Defence Intelligence Staff is meant to be explosive and refers to National Security Agency files (despite their being no such agency). My source told me there is a 'Main Computer' within the Home Office (F10 Division) which contains a database on several governmental issues, including UFOs. My contact also said that "only selective people can use the computer system in the matters of National Security". He continued, "I had a meeting with the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, and at the end of it I asked him about the UFO predicament. Howard didn't say much about the subject and went very quiet." This publicity will certainly be unwelcome. The Police Force also takes in a reasonable portion of UFO reports. The UK Atomic Energy Authority Constabulary are regularly briefed to anticipate UFO sightings in the proximity of atomic energy installations. They are to take no other action but are to prepare a report, which they then send to their superiors.

Unquestionably, our own armed forces are lively UFO researchers. Numerous instances have come to light involving UFO/RAF dog fighting, crash retrieval ventures and clandestine research into Alien technology at places such as RAF Farnborough, where during the mid-50s, secret research was conducted into UFOs, according to several RAF sources. The Defence and Evaluation Research Agency have a facility at Farnborough, rumoured lately to be housing a downed UFO and Boeing 747 jumbo jet.

During the 70s there was an impressive UFO encounter in Minley Manor Woods, not far from Farnborough. My source, who I'll call 'Hannah' told me there was a strong military attendance in the woods after several hexagonal shaped UFOs visited the district. Nowadays, the area is a Mecca for enigmatic unmarked helicopters and when questioned the local Air Force, Police and Airport assure me their aircraft are not in the territory. Last year, a helicopter hovered over a housing estate early one morning. The residents got up and went outside to see what all the fuss was about and it was then they saw four pulsing red lights above a corn field. The helicopter began to close in on the lights and as it got nearer, the lights shot off at great speed towards Aldershot.



In retrospect, it is now obvious that the British Government investigates UFO reports, but has it drawn any conclusions? According to some sources, the RAF did indeed reach a UFO decision asserting the root of the phenomena was extraterrestrial and that humankind was somehow related to the visitors! Was Darwin wrong? I daren't say, but I have learned that during the 1960s a building called Riverwalk House, which was used by the Intelligence Services (SIS, MI6, MI5) for the compilation of Eastern bloc and Russian affairs, did have some of the sought after answers. Apparently, during a document review in the building's library, two female colleagues came across a