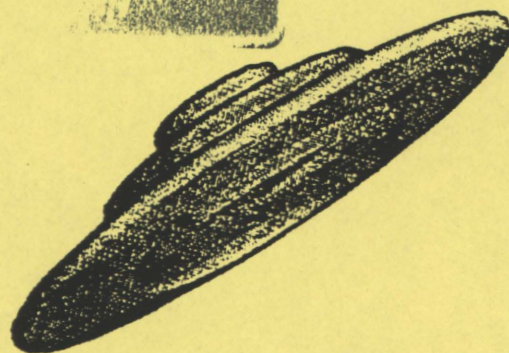
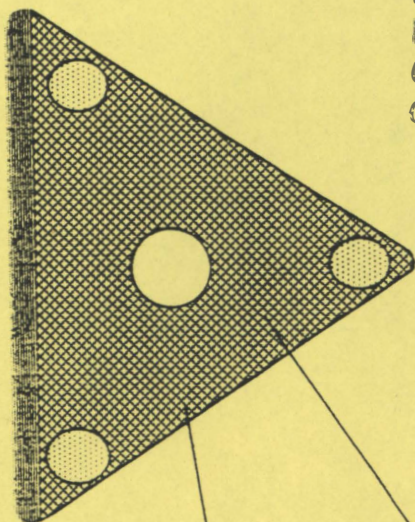


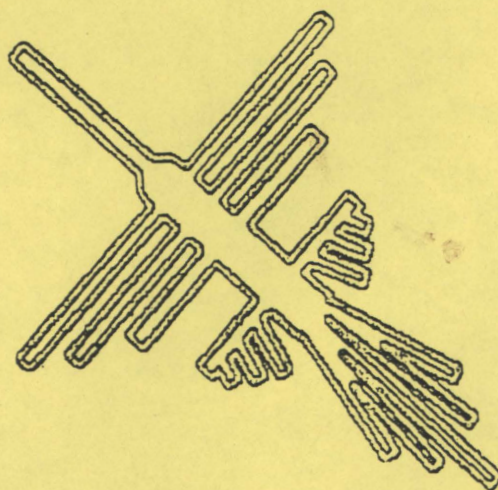
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# OVNI



Journal of the Phenomenon Research Association

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## WE MIGHT NOT HAVE PRINTED THE 'OVNI' THIS MONTH IF.....

An event occurred on the morning of Friday 1st September, that has achieved scant coverage in the National Press (Even the 'Times' only managed page 11). It might well have meant a disaster for us all and yet this particular UFO had only apparently been spotted six days previously by the Arecibo Observatory in Costa Rico.

With the neat little title of 2000 QW7, an asteroid a third of a mile across was discovered hurtling towards the Earth. It was estimated that it would pass "close" to the Earth and in fact passed the Earth at its closest point equal to a distance of twelve times that of the Moon (2.4 million miles). A "Close Shave" in cosmic terms, which warranted it being given the additional title of a "PHA", a **potentially hazardous asteroid!** One spokesman quoted that "If it had been 2.4 million miles closer, which is peanuts, we wouldn't have been here talking about it today." Scientists have said that if an asteroid the size of 2000 QW7 (which is nine times the size of the Tunguska asteroid that hit Siberia in 1908) had hit London, everything inside the area of the M25 would have been flattened. If it had hit the Earth the devastation would have been frightening.

If it had landed in the Atlantic Ocean, everything within two miles would be vapourised and the east coast of the United States and the west coast of Europe would be swept by tidal waves. Molten debris would continue to rain down for weeks after the impact and dust particles would cause effects similar to a "nuclear winter". It has been estimated that an impact of 2000 QW7 would have resulted in the death of a quarter of the Earth's population.

This near-calamity brings into question the past warnings of our Alien "friends". Over the years, "contactees" claim to have been presented with scenes of devastation and famine on Earth, but this has been assumed by many to be scenes of natural disasters. Have contactees ever been told that such scenes are the result of an asteroid collision with Earth I wonder?

It has also been thought that such scenes of devastation could have been brought about as the result of an Atomic conflict of some kind. This present "close call" shows us that we may have more to fear from forces outside our control than say, the misuse of a Nuclear arsenal. Although the latter could cause a near calamity, there is no doubt that a very large asteroid hitting the Earth, would be the end for all of us.

We have apparently received warnings about our misuse of Nuclear power, so why have we had no warnings about the very real chance of an asteroid colliding with Earth? The whole "contactee" scenario is fraught with controversy.

Is it real or is it the mind playing tricks? We can only imagine, what we can recall from the memory bank in our mind. If the emphasis has been on the fear of an Atomic conflict, then this is something that dwells in our mind and could explain the subliminal messages.

If the thought of an asteroid colliding with the Earth and causing disaster had never seriously entered our head, then possibly we would be incapable of receiving "warning messages" about it. What is the true reality of such Alien warnings? Should we rethink our understanding of "Reality" ?

## MYSTERIOUS CRAFT CONTINUE TO PASS OVER BRADFORD

Strange craft were observed flying over Bradford, West Yorkshire, some months ago and what started off as something unusual has developed into a real mystery. The local investigator and video photographer, Russell Kellett has been filming strange lights passing over Bradford and more recently a falling object resembling a structure similar to a hang glider was caught by him on video. "I was gobsmacked" commented Russell.

The main events began about last June, when Russell's attention was attracted by an unusual craft flying overhead. It sounded similar to an aircraft but was not showing any standard navigation lights (Red-Port, Green -Starboard) or anti-collision strobe lights. Instead it had a triangular set of white lights with a red light in the centre (see page 3) and was flying "broad side" forward. This is an identical lighting sequence on unidentified craft seen during the Belgian "Flying Triangle" flap 1989/90.

We checked with one of our contacts, a regular airline pilot, who confirmed that such lights did not conform to CAA (Civil Aviation Authority) requirements and were strictly illegal.

Russell Kellett has taken extensive footage of similar lights both in a triangular and diamond pattern. He has also filmed balls of light zig-zagging over Bradford in the early hours of the morning. He has taken these over a period of several months and up to the present day. He has also gone to some lengths to try and establish what the lights are precisely. To this end, he has obtained the services of Professor Green of the Electronic Imaging Department at Coventry University. An enhancement of a three light pattern video'd over Bradford on 16th June 2000 is shown on the opposite page.

While nobody is in a position to positively identify what these craft are, it raises three distinct possibilities.

(A) An Alien "Flying Triangle" (They do not always travel 'point' first).

(B) A conventional aircraft carrying lights identical to an 'FT' in order to confuse observers. (*Disinformation?*). This is a probability, as two white lights could be positioned, one on each wing and one under the tail. The red central light would present no problem. There was also a deep droning noise recorded, similar to an aircraft, but also similar to FT's video'd over Belgium 1989/90.

(C) A secret aircraft development (In that case why draw attention to the craft by sporting large white lights?)

According to Russell, he initially reported the lights to various authorities including Civil Aviation and Military (West Drayton included). From that time on, he noted that the lights/craft passed over Bradford a few degrees off their usual course, as though trying to confuse any observers.

(Russell was so engrossed with the strange lights, that he has purchased a new Sony "Handicam" video camera, with night shot facility including an infra-red illuminator).

Even stranger was the object seen falling down from the sky at 8pm on Sunday 27th August. Russell luckily had his video camera with him at the time and snatched a few brief seconds of tape before the object disappeared, out of sight at ground level. The camera was set on auto-focus and the object went out of shot, as the camera focussed on a wire fence in the direct line of sight. However, if Russell had paused to adjust the camera setting, he would have failed to obtain any video of the object at all.

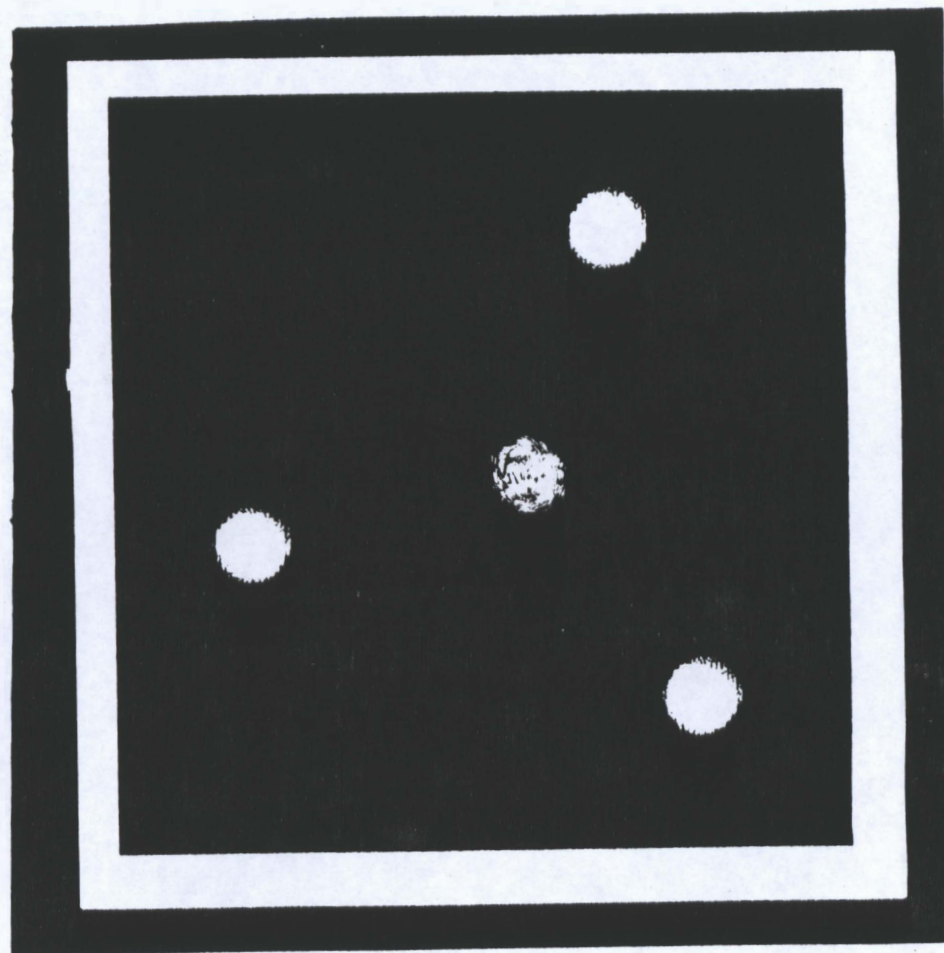
An opinion has been expressed that the object was a hang glider, actually it is more in the shape of an aircraft ejector seat. However this appears unlikely as the object fell slowly to the ground, with a slight rotation. Subsequent enhancement has shown that it was definitely not a hang glider. It was noted that the grass in the foreground moved in the wind from left to right, but the object banked to the left as it fell.

According to Russell, a number of helicopters were seen hovering around the Queensbury/Bradford area on the following day. So the mystery continues.....





A



B

Original (A) *Photographed over Bradford 16th June 2000 By Russell Kellett.*

Photo. (B) *Enhanced by Professor Green, Electronic Imaging Dept. Coventry University.*

## LEEDS UFO CAPTURED ON VIDEO

# It's close encounters . . . of the weird kind

**BY PETER LAZENBY**

A SCHOOL gala in Leeds was attended by mysterious visitors who have still not been identified days after the event.

Lights twinkled and flashed from their vehicles as they arrived even though it was daylight.

They didn't hang around long enough to enjoy the stalls, entertainment and other activities, though, or even get out to say hello.

The visitors were, according to gala guest Denise Warren, probably from another planet.

Their vehicles appeared in the sky high above the gala - first one, then

two and three, and eventually a fourth, fifth and sixth - all displaying red, orange and yellow lights.

Denise was at the gala at Intake High School, Bramley, to see her 10-year-old daughter Kate who was taking part. Denise had her video camera with her, and after the first lights began appearing she started filming.

## Lights

"I saw bright orange-yellow lights appearing in the sky," she said. "When it got to about the third or fourth I thought I would video it."

"I got two on video and you can actually see the shape. There are three red lights on it underneath going on and off."

"Other parents saw them as well."

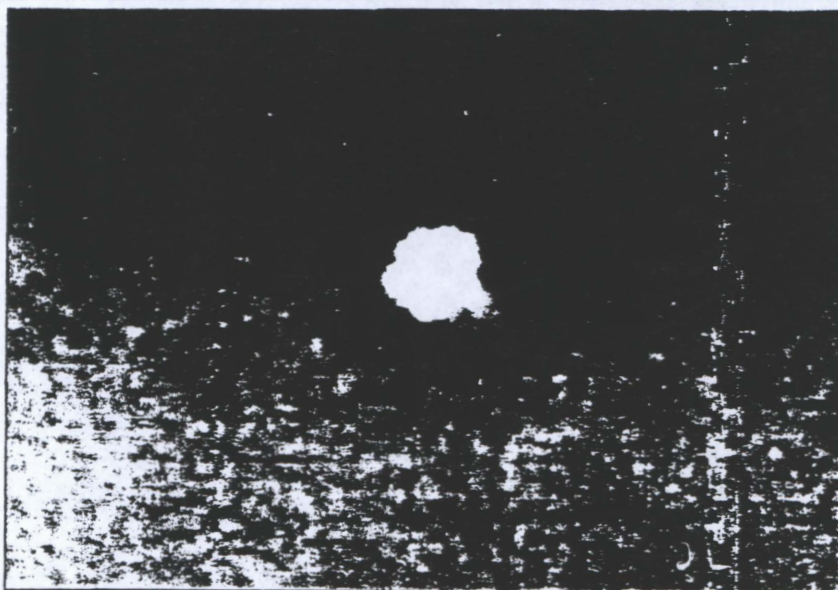
Since the sighting Denise, 42, from Farnley, Leeds, has taken the video to a TV studio and has had it analysed by a UFO expert.

The shapes the camera captured are indistinct.

"He was completely baffled. He is going to investigate it," said Denise. "I have spoken to other people who saw it. I am convinced it wasn't an aeroplane. I'm convinced it was something from somewhere else - another planet."

The sighting was her second. "When I was 18 or 19 I saw a cigar-shaped article when I worked at Morrison's at Bramley," she said.

*peter.lazenby@ypn.co.uk*



July 1st 2000

● MYSTERY: Denise Warren, right, filmed this moving light over Bramley.

## FLYING TRIANGLE SEEN NEAR SWADLINCOTE

At 9.50pm on the night of the 23rd August this year, Mr George Brealey was standing on the path outside his home at Midway, Swadlincote, Derbyshire, when he looked up and saw something strange.

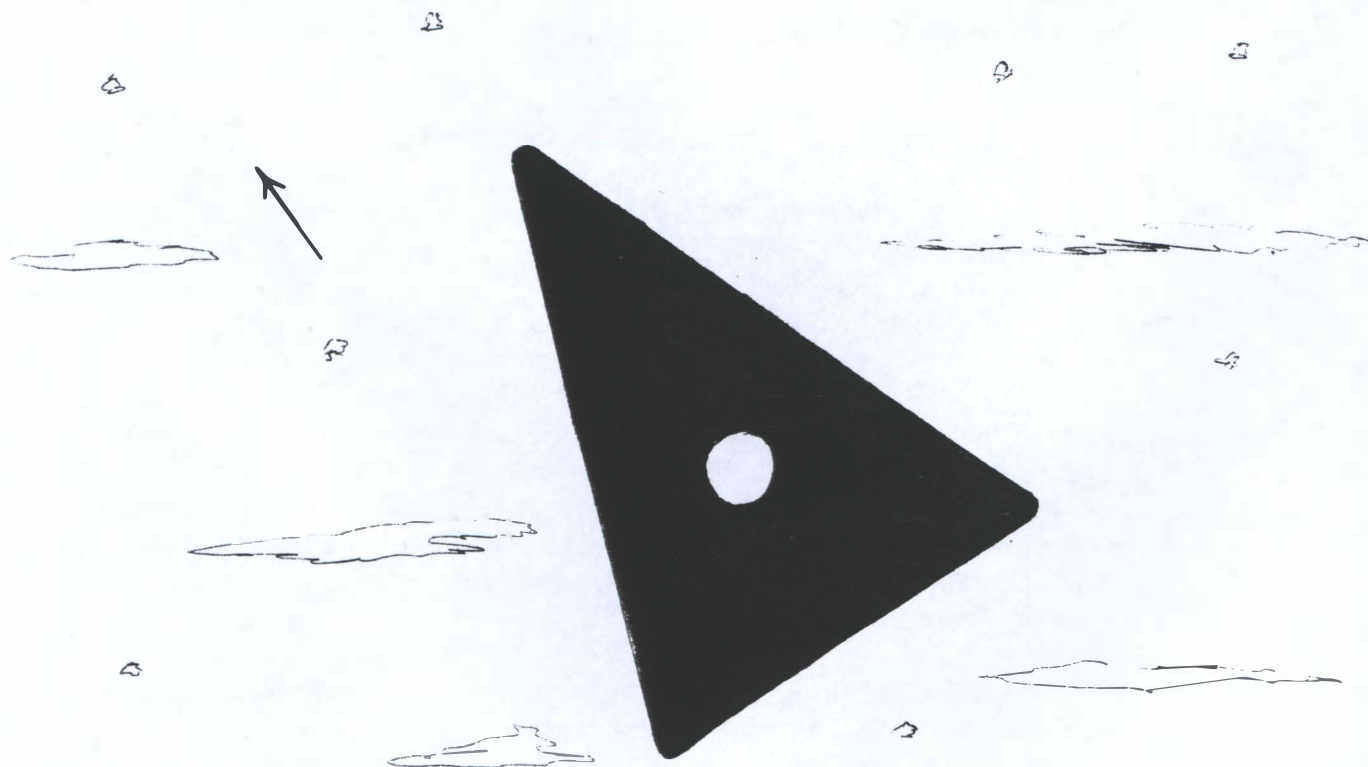
Passing overhead "at speed", Mr Brealey saw a large black triangular shaped craft, travelling from the Southeast to the Northwest. He believes that he watched for about two minutes, but that is quite a long time and it could have been less.

The triangular craft, which was completely black apart from a central white light on the underside, was silhouetted against the light night sky. Mr Brealey estimated the speed to be about 800mph. This is in sharp contrast to the much slower speed of about 30mph that is often reported.

The Swadlincote area, is not far away from Bretby, which was the scene of extensive 'FT' activity a few years ago.

Mr Brealey stated that he was able to check the time of the event, from his wristwatch. The night sky was starry and the 'FT' was sharply defined against the starry night sky background. The craft disappeared out of sight behind some nearby terraced houses, opposite to Mr Brealey's home.

Shortly after the incident, Mr Brealey phoned Omar Fowler from a nearby BT Payphone and reported what he had seen. He made the point that by living in the vicinity of the East Midlands Airport, he was well aware of what normal aircraft looked like.



Drawing of the 'FT' based on Mr Brealey's sketch.



## ANOTHER WW2 STORY

From the UFO Files -Volume 5 Number 14

### 1944: UFO GOES SUPERSONIC OVER TARAWA

Three years before Roswell, during April of 1944, there was a flurry of UFO sightings in both the USA and on different World War II battlefields around the globe.

One such battlefield was Tarawa, a small island atoll in the central Pacific Ocean. This lonely outpost of Japan's Pacific empire was invaded by an Allied task force on November 20, 1943. After eight days of heavy fighting, the U.S. Marine Corps took possession of the island.

Five months after the battle, the U.S. Navy had set up an early warning detection system in the central Pacific. Radar stations on Tarawa, manned by Navy personnel, kept watch for any signs of Japanese activity.

One day in April 1944, Navy Lieutenant (j.g.) Matthew P. Dillingham took over as OD (Officer of the Deck--J.T.) at the Argus 16 Combat Intelligence Center (CIC) on Tarawa. There were three radar sets in the Argus 16 command center.

As Lt. Dillingham was doing his paperwork for the captain, he heard one of the sailors remark, "Sir, I've got a bogey."

Hurrying to the radar set, the lieutenant asked, "What have you got?"

"Single plane, sir. Coming in from the north. And she's coming in hot."

As Lt. Dillingham noted in his letter to UFO investigator Major Donald E. Keyhoe, Argus 16 "suddenly picked up a 'bogey'...the blip of an unknown object...moving swiftly from north to south. The speed was calculated at approximately 700 miles per hour (1,120 kilometers per hour--J.T.)-- far greater than any aircraft then known to exist."

Immediately Lt. Dillingham picked up the telephone and called "the old man." Within a minute, the captain, his executive officer and the intelligence officer were in the control room. Lt. Dillingham repeated the story of what had happened.

Major Keyhoe wrote, "The radar sets were in excellent condition, and the operators, Dillingham emphasizes, were all expert plotters. Even so, some incredulous Navy officers first called it poor calibration."

## Tarawa Contd:

"But not long after this, there was a second mysterious 'bogey,' and again Navy plotters computed the speed at 700 miles per hour."

"When this happened once more, Dillingham and his group knew there was no error."

"There seemed only two possible answers: either this was a completely solid object under guidance. Or, by some miracle, the Japanese had jumped far ahead (of the USA) and produced a supersonic plane."

(Editor's Comment: Wouldn't you just love to read the Estimate of the Situation the Pacific commander, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, must have sent to General George C. Marshall, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, about this "supersonic Japanese airplane?")

When the war ended in 1945, U.S. Navy officers debriefed the admirals of the Imperial Japanese Navy. They specifically asked about the "supersonic plane" that had overflown Tarawa in April 1944.

The Japanese admirals had no idea what they were talking about.

### THE 76P MYSTERY SOLVED

As the result of our appeal in the last issue of the OVNI (see Tale Enders), the mystery surrounding the comet named 76P has been clarified. PRA member Garry Stapleton made the following comment:

It is astonishing that everyone seems to think that if NASA has nothing to say on a subject, then there must be something sinister going on.

A two minute search on the internet, using the key word '76P', produced 66 references to this comet. Reading the document (below) puts everything into perspective.

#### 76P/West-Kohoutek-Ikemura

During January 1975, Richard M. West (European Southern Observatory Sky Atlas Laboratory, Geneva) was examining plates exposed by Pizarro and Ballereau at the European Southern Observatory at La Silla. On a plate exposed on 1974 October 15.13, he found a trail, which he described as diffuse, with a magnitude of 12. The comet also exhibited a central condensation and a tail less than 1 degree long. Searches through other ESO plates revealed no trace of the comet and West was left with a single image taken three months earlier and showing ambiguous motion (either to the east-southeast or west-northwest). The comet was presumed lost.

Chapter two of this story began near the end of February of 1975, when Lubos Kohoutek (Hamburg Observatory, Bergedorf) found a cometary object on a plate exposed on February 9. As the motion was ambiguous, he began searching for this comet on February 27 in areas southwest and northeast of the February 9 position. Kohoutek found a comet to the southwest on a photograph exposed on February 27.78. He estimated the magnitude as 13 and described the comet as diffuse, with a condensation. On March 2, word came from Japan that Toshihiko Ikemura (Shinshiro) was not able to find Kohoutek's comet in the extrapolated position, but he had discovered a comet on March 1.52, at a position



## 76P/West-Kohoutek-Ikemura

northeast of Kohoutek's February 27 position. He estimated the magnitude as 12, and his confirmation on March 2.45 revealed it heading in the opposite direction to Kohoutek's reported comet.

B. G. Marsden began examining the February positions and immediately noted that when Ikemura's comet was extrapolated backwards it aligned almost perfectly with Kohoutek's February 27 comet. Thus, while attempting to confirm the February 9 comet, Kohoutek found a second one which was independently found by Ikemura. The February 9 object was latter photographed and became known as comet 1975 III, Kohoutek.

- o This comet will make a very close approach to Mars during June of 2000, but how close will it actually come to that planet? Using the prediction of Kenji Muraoka (Japan), the smallest distance between the comet and Mars will occur on June 5. The minimum distance will then be 0.04215 AU, which is equal to 3,914,000 miles or 6,303,000 kilometers. Using the prediction of Patrick Rocher (France), the smallest distance between the comet and Mars will occur on June 5. The minimum distance will then be 0.04251 AU, which is equal to 3,948,000 miles or 6,357,000 kilometers. Thus, two well-known astronomers respected for the accuracy of their orbital computations have provided similar orbits indicating a close approach slightly greater than 3.9 million miles (6.3 million kilometers). Although this comet has been bright enough for large amateur telescopes to see in the past, this close approach will not be observable as the comet is then situated  $6^{\circ} 50'$  from the sun. On a sad note, this close approach is being reported as a possible collision by one internet group that has failed on all its previous attempts to predict doom. Unfortunately, people seem to have short memories and are believing this internet group once again. There is no chance of a collision. There is no chance of pieces of Mars hitting us. Just a close approach of a comet and that planet.

### A LITTLEOVER (DERBY) SIGHTING 1982

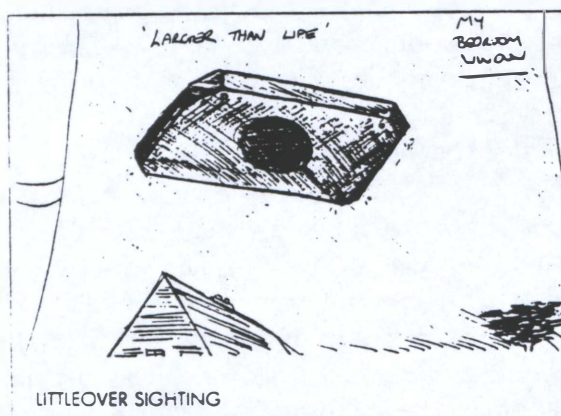
The following report is taken from the UFO TIMES July/August 1996

Case File: Date 1982 -month unknown Area: Littleover, Derby.

BUFORA received a letter from DS now serving in Bosnia. He recalls sighting, when he was ten years of age and living in Littleover, Derby.

It was about 2am and he was awoken by a very loud buzzing noise. Being curious, he got out of bed and looked out of his window and saw an object hovering over the fields near his house. He describes it as having flashing lights on each corner and colours that appeared to be red, yellow and green. He could see a definite shape as it was so low. He emphasised that it was not a plane or helicopter.

He then became scared and ran into his parents room in shock. He states that he could not get back to sleep and in the morning, drew a picture for his parents. He describes it as having been in a Northerly direction and bigger than the full moon. (See drawing). *Littleover has had more than its fair share of UFO sightings! (Ed.)*



## WAS THERE A UFO CRASH COVER-UP AT CANNOCK CHASE?

With thanks to Irene Bott, Nick Redfern, Anthony James and 'The Post' 10th Aug.2000.

Our investigation of this rumour of a UFO crash in the Cannock Chase area took us back in time to the 1960's and plunged us into a bizarre mystery involving the retrieval by the military of a strange craft that had crashed on the Chase.

There were stories of the silencing of a key witness, rumours of Alien bodies found in the wreckage of the vehicle and the deep involvement of the Ministry of Defence.

It began, when the late Leonard Stringfield, a US Air Force officer at the time, revealed that in 1964 a UFO piloted by three Alien creatures crashed on the edge of Cannock Chase and was recovered by elite forces from NATO.

Despite the incredible nature of this account, we located a source that was intimately involved. He had been driving through the Chase on that fateful day in 1964 and had come across a cordon manned by military personnel. He was ordered to turn his vehicle around and drove several hundred yards up the road and then pulled over. Luckily he had a camera with him in the car and taking this, he stealthily walked through the trees to see what all the fuss was about....He soon found out!

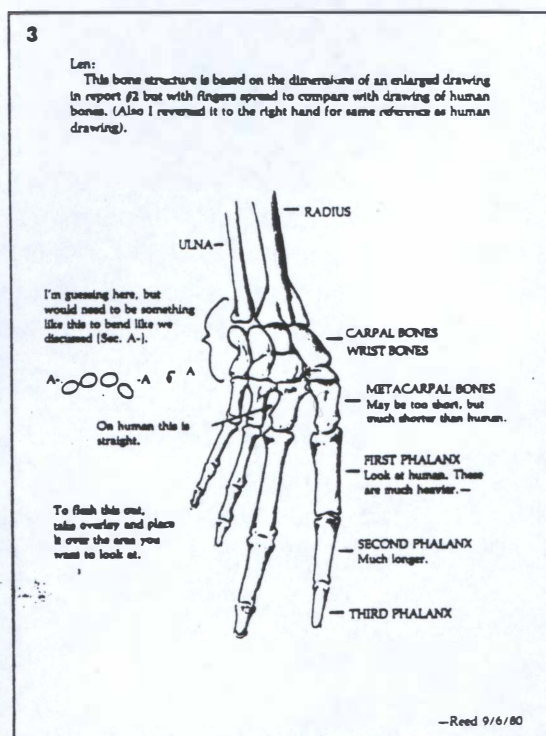
He peered through the trees and was able to make out the shape of a small triangular-shaped object sitting on a military trailer. "It looked like nothing on Earth." Unfortunately at this stage, the witness was spotted and apprehended. His camera was confiscated and he was questioned about his reasons for being in the area. After he had made his explanation, it was made quite clear to him that it would not be in his best interest to speak out publicly on what he had seen.

To bring the situation up to-date, the day we went to interview him, he told us that he had received a strange telephone call from the MOD that had unnerved him considerably. We wondered if he was a hoaxer and if the story was true. We asked if we could dial 1471 (trace the caller), to see if he was being honest. Sure enough, the number was available and it was the MoD guards service at Whittington Army Barracks. From there however, the only response was a deafening silence.

To this day, the origin of the mysterious object found on the Chase in 1964 remains unknown. Was it a crashed UFO or was it perhaps a prototype aircraft that the military and the MoD wanted to keep 'under wraps'?



Leonard Stringfield 1920-1994  
'Alien Hand' (Right) From his book  
UFO Crash Retrievals: June 1982  
Which he sent to your Editor 6/3/93.



Upper left (3) is a sketch of the hand I drew for the critical view of a forensic C.I.A. employee in 1979, who claimed to have seen a crashed alien during a recovery in New Mexico, 1962. He advised only that I remove a small protruding nub which I depicted as a winged thumb.



### Reports from Anthony James

#### NUCLEAR SUB UFO ENCOUNTER (New report, old encounter)

*A sailor reports about the UFO sighting he had while in the US Navy.*

"I was assigned to USS Memphis (SSN-698), homeport Titusville, FL. (Cape Canaveral). Our mission was Special Assignments, which meant we protected the Space Program. We would go to sea and patrol while the Shuttle was on the pad. Eleven years ago (1989), on October 24 and 25, my ship was patrolling about 150 miles off the Florida coast. We were cruising at about 500 feet when the submarine started experiencing electronic problems. The ship was malfunctioning, our tanks were blowing out of control, we were losing navigation ability and the communications area was totally lost. We went to 'All Stop' and tried to access what was happening. The controls in the reactor area started to malfunction. This presented a serious danger to our safety so our Captain ordered us to shut down the reactor, surface, and go to diesel motors. When the ship surfaced, I went to my watch station. The ship was still experiencing electronic difficulties but the mechanical devices such as the diesel engines, cook stoves and turbines were fine".

"It was raining and the entire sky was red, like a red neon sign. I saw a large inverted V-shaped UFO off the port side. The Executive Officer told me to stand fast and he would speak to the captain. Within a minute, the Captain appeared on the tower and asked me for a distance to the craft. The laser range finder determined the closest point was 200 metres and the farthest point was 1,000 metres off the port. The UFO was not perpendicular to our ship but at about 45° angle. This huge vessel was over half a mile across. The UFO made a half circle around our ship then passed across the Stern, causing our electronic systems to go crazy. We had permanent damage in communications and sonar rooms. As the craft flew over the Stern, I could see the rain stop under its glow. The water seemed to rise about a foot as the UFO passed over silently. When the UFO finished its swing across the Stern, it paused. The sky got brighter red and then the UFO moved away and was gone within 15 seconds. Our ship returned to normal with the exception of the radio and sonar. We did a quick systems check and the Captain ordered us to return to reactor power and get under way".

"The Captain took two Petty Officers, the Executive Officer and myself into the Wardroom. He told us not to spread any rumours until we had the chance to talk to Commander Submarine Fleet – Atlantic. We reached port in about seven hours where I was taken into 'protective custody'. Two enlisted men and myself agreed we had witnessed a real UFO. I was the one who had shot it with the laser range finder so I was the only one who had its exact size. I shot that vessel as it hovered and I got a solid reading, not spotty like I would on debris. We were in holding for about three hours when an Officer from the Air Force arrived and gave us a line of 'bull' about an exploding weather satellite. The Navy then transferred virtually everyone on the crew to new assignments. This included her Captain, the Executive Officer and the entire crew. They were split up, which almost never happens unless one of them gets a promotion or a new command, neither of which happened. The military just split up a four-year team"

*"I was watching a programme tonight which gave me the courage to share this with you"*

This type of split also occurred after the 1980 RAF/USAF Rendlesham/Bentwaters incidents. See Left at East Gate by Larry Warren and Peter Robbins. (A J)

**VIEQUES, PUERTO RICO**

Amidst the mysteries of a US Navel base in Puerto Rico are strange stories of UFO activity. Puerto Rican Ufologist Jorge Martin interviewed Angel Encarnacion, a Vieques fisherman, who said that... "One night while fishing out at sea south of the Navy's shooting range and east of Vieques, we saw in the distance a really big and shining light. Getting closer, we saw that it was a huge round saucer object with lots of lights turning off and on all around the ship. On the bottom-middle, there was a really big green light aimed at the ocean's surface. It wasn't more than a hundred feet above the ocean. What shocked me most was seeing the object absorb water from the ocean. You could actually see a big volume of water rising and entering the object. Throughout the operation there was no sound".

(Ed Walters of Gulf Breeze caught something similar to this on camera on 26/4/1994) AJ.

**GEORGIA, USA**

On 29<sup>th</sup> July 2000, a Georgia Leasing agent and two of her business associates were at her apartment when a thunderstorm moved through the city between 22:00 and 23:00 hrs. The primary witness and her associates went out onto the second story balcony to watch the lightning display. As the lightning subsided, they noticed what they thought was a flying craft with three rows of hazy green lights on the side. It approached from the west and then banked to the north, flying slowly within 150 to 200 feet above them as it did so. At this time, it was also noticed to have 3 green lights along the bottom rear, all lights steady and non-blinking.

The craft was also described as being about the size of a family car but triangular in shape, and appearing to have rounded rather than pointed edges. Although there was distant thunder still in the background, no engine or motor sound could be heard. They were surprised that any type of aircraft would be flying in such close proximity to a storm and its appearance and shape only added to the overall strangeness of the event.

It should be noted that the primary witness is a former flight attendant who has experience with various aircraft types and their characteristics.

**NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, USA**

On August 17 at 10:24, two witnesses observed a fast moving silver sphere shaped UFO. One witness said... "I work for a moving company and was driving on the New Jersey Turnpike with a co-worker. As we passed Newark Airport, we watched planes land and take off. I saw the sun glint off an aircraft that was heading toward us; it glinted again so I took a closer look. It was round at the front and didn't look right. As it got closer, I asked, 'What the \*\$%#! is that? It was just a big round silver ball about two miles away. It kept travelling towards us and passed us on the left moving faster than any plane that we have seen going to Newark Airport. It was silver and round and about the size of a helicopter, but without windows or lights, nothing on it at all. It moved in a perfect straight line as it travelled, no wobbles, no up or down and no spinning motion, it just went straight. To us it looked to be made of solid metal and glistening bright. Our radio picked up static as it passed. The UFO moved north about 6 miles toward us in a straight line following the Turnpike and kept heading that way at about 2000 feet. The whole even lasted about 30 seconds

AJames@emufora.freemove.co.uk All reports will be forwarded to PRA.



# The Evening Sky

*'My dog is called Red. He's a red setter. I know his name isn't very innovative but when we (my family) first saw him we just had to call him Red. Red and I have spent many nights under the stars in all weathers and in all seasons and I can't tell you how much I love being with him. 'Me, Red and the universe' make a great team. You can be part of a great team too. Step out into the night. Spend a couple of hours walking under a clear sky. Look up at the stars or the Moon or simply enjoy the splendour and magic of evening and dawn twilights. Try and connect with nature, with the the cosmos and with your ancestors who were also captivated by the same starry sky thousands of years before you.'*

## **How to get *The Evening Sky* 'astro news-sheet'**

If you wish to receive a copy of *The Evening Sky* 'astro news-sheet' send your details to  
Walter Berg - PO Box 5328 - Northampton - NN1 2ZA - UK  
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Back issues and other information may be received (packet.txt).

*The Evening Sky* is a non-profit making project whose aim is to bring Astronomy a little closer. *The Evening Sky* offers a spiritual dimension to science and a sense of place and of who and where we are in the cosmos. *The Evening Sky* began with a circulation of just twenty-five copies in 1991. The current circulation is over one thousand and includes schools, colleges, libraries, individuals, a diversity of clubs and organisations. In addition to the astro news-sheet, lectures, presentations, field trips and help with 'astro' examination etc. are undertaken. *The Evening Sky* is published in several local newspapers notably The Milton Keynes Sunday Citizen and OVNI, the Journal of the Phenomenon Research Association. In 1994 Paul Rudkin of Detroit, Michigan, USA released *The Evening Sky* onto the Radio Packet Network and in 1995 onto the World Wide Web.

*Remember, no matter how fraught life becomes, all the stars in heaven are shining just for you!*

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# The Evening Sky

## *September 2000*



Throughout September Venus continues to appear low in the western sky as night falls. If you have a clear horizon you will easily spot this bright, silver planet known to the ancients as 'The Evening Star'.

Saturn and Jupiter both rise in the northern skies late in the evening. Both lie close to the star Aldebaran. If you have a good pair of binoculars or a small telescope the best time to view these two worlds is when they are low in the sky, just before the first glow of dawn twilight.

Now is an excellent time to look up at the heavens. The skies are often clear and dark in the northern temperate zones and the stars arrive quite early in the evening. A weak meteor shower (Alpha Aurigid) opens in September, so do not watch television hoping to acquire a new lifestyle. Go out under the starry sky where you will find peace and tranquillity. Wish upon a shooting star and become entrapped by the magic of the Moon.

The Next Generation Space Telescope (NGST) designed to replace the Hubble Space Telescope in 2009 is on target. Its 8 metre segmented mirror will be three times as large as Hubble. Unlike Hubble, which is in Earth orbit, NGST will be more than a million miles distance from Earth in a region of gravitational stability known as the Lagrangian point. The telescope will be protected by a tennis court size Sun shield.

The Milky Way galaxy is really quite a big sweetie. Simple sugar molecules have been discovered at its centre where interstellar space clouds form new stars!

How can there be many different types of star when they are all made out of the same stuff? Temperature which controls the state of the gas in a star is the source of the difference. The larger the star, the greater the pressure at its centre and therefore the hotter the star. Large stars burn their fuel rapidly. Very large stars have a relatively short life, whereas very small stars have a long life. Our Sun is an average star and has a life of around 7 billion years. A small dwarf star has a life of around 7 trillion years or more!

The Sun reaches the Autumnal equinox on September 22nd. Harvest Moon, the full Moon closest to the season's equinox occurs on September 13th. The Harvest Moon is bright and stays out all night, affording light when crops need to be gathered quickly.

I always enjoy the harvest festival especially when I get a chance to sing my favourite Harvest hymn 'We plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the land' by Matthias Claudius, which I also sing in the bath. '... He paints the wayside flower, He lights the evening star.' Come on, join in!

***Enjoy Your Evening Sky!***

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### TALE ENDERS

**CYNTHIA HIND** the World renowned UFO researcher, passed away in Harare, Zimbabwe on Friday 25th August, after losing her battle with cancer. "The UFO world has lost a great woman and without doubt one of the great researchers." (*Bill Oliver UFO BC.*) Cynthia was the author of 'UFO's Over Africa' and editor of UFO AFRINEWS, she was also the African Continent Director for MUFON.

**THE ALIEN CONNECTION EXHIBITION (BLACKPOOL) CLOSES.** According to 'The Gazette' dated July 6 2000, One of Blackpool's most unusual tourist attractions has mysteriously closed! The attraction, was officially opened in April 1999 by former TV time traveller Dr Who'-actor Colin Baker. Mr Boyle, the owner, informed staff that the exhibition was to be closed with immediate effect and that the exhibits were to be taken to America. There were more than 50 full-size replicas of aliens and a range of flying saucers, plus information on ancient monuments in the exhibition.

**COLIN ANDREWS HAS GOT IT WRONG!** According to PRA member Jeff Whitear, Colin's latest theory about the natural Crop Circles being caused by the Earth's shifting magnetic field and inducing an electrostatic charge in the wheat, would result in an elongated Crop Circle and not a round one. We understand that Colin also stated that the vast majority of Crop Circle Pictograms are hoaxes, which is something that we would not dispute.

**THE CANNOCK CHASE UFO** (See page 9) Was according to the witness, "a small triangular object". This small FT seen in 1964 could have been very similar to that observed by Mr Phil Shepherdson, while on his way to work on his motorcycle near Crayke N.Yorkshire on the 24th February 1979. He was driving out in the country, turned a corner and saw a small triangular craft hovering low over a field. A figure could be seen inside a dome on top of the craft, while outside the craft, there were two figures apparently collecting plants. The witness then had a memory lapse, arriving at work half an hour late.

**WW2 UFO STORIES** seem to be a popular subject at the moment. The latest title 'Weird War Tales' has been written by ace researcher Nick Redfern and Jonathan Downes. Crashed UFO's in the 1940's, a report of a German Luftwaffe Saucer craft built and flown in WW2. This is the first of a series and covers 1939-45. Obtainable from (& cheques to) J.Downes, 15 Holne Court, Exwick,Exeter. EX4 2NA. Total cost £7.50.

**USA POLICEMAN SPOTS FT** . Officer Stevens spotted a noiseless, dark triangle hovering over his car, at a height of 1,000 -1,500ft, as though studying him, before streaking away to the west. The incident took place at Lebanon, near St.Louis on the night of 5th January 2000. (Source <http://www.the-times.co.uk>)

**BIG BROTHER WILL BE WATCHING YOU!** Britain is entering a new era of 'Big Brother' in which subscribers to mobile phones will have their movements tracked to within 5 metres. New technology means police and security services can spy on citizens more efficiently than ever before, according to civil rights campaigners. Mobile phone makers have been told by the European Commission that they must insert microchips that can be pinpointed by satellites. Ostensibly the devices will allow "third-generation phone users to be located when they make emergency calls. Campaigners have highlighted the sinister potential, claiming the devices will be used to trace anyone regarded as a 'suspect'. The full directive will come into force January 1 2003. (Source: *The Sunday Times* Sept.3 2000.)

### NEXT MEETING

Will be held at the **Royal British Legion**, Allenton, (off the A5111 Ring Road by the 'Spider Bridge),Derby  
at 8pm on Tuesday 26th September.

A video evening: '**Did Astronauts Really Land On The Moon?**' Plus latest 'FT' shots from Bradford.  
Non-members welcome (£1 on the night). Please Note: NO SMOKING in the meeting room.

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