

SPHERE SPECIAL PROMOTION 23 MARCH

UFO PROMOTION

Title: **CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND**

Author: Steven Spielberg Pagination: 240

CLOSE ENCOUNTER OF THE FIRST KIND: Sighting
CLOSE ENCOUNTER OF THE SECOND KIND: Evidence
CLOSE ENCOUNTER OF THE THIRD KIND: Contact

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND, a frightening and significant book from Steven Spielberg, brilliant young director of JAWS

Selling Points:

- * First ever multi-million dollar budget film about man's contact with UFOs — scheduled for release in the UK, March 1978
 - * Eye-catching full colour header/streamer available for in-store displays
- Massive press, TV and radio coverage of the whole UFO phenomenon will inevitably follow release of the film. Anticipating this demand we have chosen our wide range of UFO books as this month's Special Promotion.

Title: **UFOs: A SCIENTIFIC ENIGMA**

Author: D A J Seargent Pagination: 144

Author's Address: New South Wales, Australia

- * Visitors from outer space — or demons of the mind?

Title: **MYSTERIES OF TIME AND SPACE**

Author: Brad Steiger Pagination: 288 +

- * Challenges most basic concepts and beliefs about the universe around us

Key Review:

"One of the best books on mysterious phenomena since Chariots of the Gods"
Gnostics: News of the Aquarian Frontier

Title: **THE FLYING SAUCERERS**

Author: Arthur Shuttlewood Pagination: 160 +

Author's Address: Warminster, Wilts

- * Examines numerous eye-witness accounts and relates chilling personal experiences — all within the UK!

Title: **MY CONTACT WITH UFOs**

Author: Dino Kraspedon Pagination: 208

- * Records detailed accounts of conversations that took place with sentient beings from space, with descriptions of how UFOs are powered and motivated

Title: **UFO TREK**

Author: Warren Smith Pagination: 192

- * Flying Saucers — elaborate hoax or astounding reality?

Title: **THE BIBLE AND FLYING SAUCERS**

Author: Barry H Downing Pagination: 176

Author's Address: New York, USA

- * Can UFOs shed new light on the Testaments?

Key Review:

" 'The Space Age has set us free to explore the Bible in a new way' . . . don't miss this mind-stretching reading treat"
Los Angeles Times

Title: **THE FLYING SAUCER VISION**

Author: John Michell Pagination: 192 +

Author's Address: Bath, Somerset

- * A remarkable story of old legends revived, mythological scenes re-enacted and forgotten knowledge brought to light

Key Review:

"We have no hesitation in recommending this illustrated well-written and well-produced book as a successful example of the results of research into the mythological past and an awareness of the present day pattern of flying saucer visitation"
Orbit

Title: **SITUATION RED: THE UFO SIEGE**

Author: Leonard Stringfield Pagination: 240 +

- * Delves into the astounding facts surrounding the big UFO scare of '73

Title: **MESSENGERS FROM THE STARS**

Author: W Raymond Drake Pagination: 240

Author's Address: Roker, Sunderland

- * A fascinating analysis of the myriad legends of Earth's antiquity, showing how these legends can reveal evidence of teachers from outer space

Title: **STRANGE CREATURES FROM TIME AND SPACE**

Author: John A Keel Pagination: 304

Author's Address: Woodstock, N.Y. State, USA

- * A frightening study of the bizarre and the unexplained. It does not aim to make you believe or disbelieve — merely to make you aware of what is happening

Title: **THE HYNEK UFO REPORT**

Author: Dr. J Allen Hynek

- * Author worked for 20 years on the US Air Force's research into UFOs, "Project Blue Book". In his own book he analyses the files of the Project and establishes the need for more serious scientific study

* Founder and Director of the Centre for UFO Studies

* Technical adviser on the film *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*

researcher's permit from the National Archives and Records Service.

Also available:

Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects. Condon Report study conducted by the University of Colorado under contract F44620-76-C-0035. Three volumes, 1,465p. 68 plates. Photo-duplicated hard copies of the official report may be ordered for \$6 per volume, \$18 the set of three, as AD 680:975, AD 680:976, and AD 680:977, from the National Technical Information Service, U. S. Department of Commerce, Springfield, VA 22151.

Review of University of Colorado Report on Unidentified Flying Objects. Review of report by a panel of the National Academy of Sciences. National Academy of Sciences. Photo-duplicated hard copies may be ordered for \$3 as AD 688:541 from the National Technical Information Service, U. S. Department of Commerce, Springfield, VA 22151.

NASA is aware of the many UFO reports made in recent years. However, the majority of inquiries to NASA concerning UFO sightings address themselves to the reported sightings by astronauts during Earth Orbital and lunar missions and the report by President Carter while serving as Governor of Georgia.

During several space missions NASA astronauts reported phenomena not immediately explainable. However, in every instance NASA satisfied itself that what had been observed was nothing which could be termed abnormal in the space environment. The air-to-ground tapes of all manned missions are available at the Johnson Space Center, Houston, for review by the serious researcher.

On October 12, 1973, while serving as Governor of Georgia, Mr. Carter responded to inquiries from the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP) saying that he had seen a bright, moving object in the sky over Leary, Georgia, in October of 1969. He said the object was visible for 10 to 12 minutes and, at one point, shone as brightly as the Moon. The regional NICAP representative investigated the sighting and reported there was no evidence to support anything beyond placing what Mr. Carter saw in NICAP's "unidentified" category. However, it has been suggested by some students of aerial phenomena that Mr. Carter may have viewed the Planet Venus which, at certain times, may appear many times brighter than a star of the first-magnitude.

Since NASA is not engaged in day-to-day UFO research, it does not review UFO-related articles intended for publication, evaluate UFO-type spacecraft drawings or accept accounts of UFO sightings or applications for employment in the field of aerial phenomena investigation. All such material will be returned with NASA's thanks to the sender.

A number of universities and scientific organizations have considered UFO phenomena during periodic meetings and seminars.

In addition, a number of private domestic and foreign continue to review UFO sighting reports actively. So these organizations are:

- (1) National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena
John L. Acuff, Director
Suite 23
3535 University Boulevard, West
Kensington, MD 20795
(301) 949-1267
- (2) The Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal
UFO Subcommittee
Robert Sheaffer, Chairman
9805 McMillan Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910
(301) 589-8371
- (3) Aerial Phenomena Research Organization
James and Coral Lorenzen, Directors
3910 E. Kleindale Road
Tucson, AZ 85712
(602) 793-1825
- (4) Mutual UFO Network
Walter H. Andrus, Jr., Director
103 Old Towne Road
Seguin, TX 78155
(512) 379-9216
- (5) The Center for UFO Studies
Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Director
924 Chicago Avenue
Evanston, IL 60202
(312) 491-1780

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New Publication

New magazine being produced by UFO-CENTRE, Torquay, very well produced. For details contact:- Mr. E. Wise, 15a, Market Street, Torquay.

SKYSCAN

Organisation for the Investigation of Aerial Phenomena, Worcester
 Contact: SKYSCAN, 49, Troutbeck Drive, Warndon, Worcester.

'SOMEWHERE HE STILL CHASES VENUS'

A personal view on Mantell... by SKYSCAN member, D. Lawrence.

" TODAY, U.S. NATIONAL GUARD PILOT, CAPTAIN T. MANTELL, LOST HIS LIFE WHILE IN PURSUIT OF AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT. IT IS REPORTED THAT HIS AIRCRAFT, A P-51 MUSTANG, EXPLODED ONLY SECONDS AFTER HE HAD RADIOED THAT HE WAS ABOUT TO CLOSE IN ON THE OBJECT. OFFICIAL STATEMENTS RELEASED BY THE AIR FORCE SAY, THAT IN THEIR OPINION, MANTELL DIED OF OXYGEN STARVATION, WHILE IN THE PURSUIT OF VENUS."

(U.S. National papers headlines)

On that day, back in 1948, these headlines and many like them, appeared in newspapers all over the United States. They told a sad story of one Captain T. Mantell, who, on that fateful day, happened to be engaged on a ferrying mission, flying near to Godman Air Force base.

At approximately 2:45 p.m., Godman AFB tower personnel asked Mantell if he would investigate a strange, round flying object, which had been reported by State police earlier in the day, and was now over the base itself.

The rest of the story is, of course, history. History that tells of how Mantell flew up to 15,000 feet, and caught sight of the strange object, which he described as...(I quote) "It appears to be a metallic object of tremendous size." Moments later, this 25 year pilot was dead.

It is at this point, that I would like to start my own search for the truth behind the fate of this long misjudged man. Even in 1948, the 'Venus' excuse given by the U.S.A.F., sounded laughable and feeble, and after you have read my views on this subject, I hope you will be able to look on the episode in a more clear frame of mind.

I would like to initially look at a side of the story which is all too often only glanced at by authors, in the belief that it really nothing at all to do with the day in question. In my opinion, they are bypassing what I believe to be one of the most important parts in the puzzle, this part being Mantells career previous to 1948. So what you are about to read, is a crucial part; it is what I base my conclusions on. It took many hours of research and thought.

Captain Mantell spent the years of World war II, not in a safe and secure office, but placing his life on the 'line' for his country. He became in 1944, a hero of the D-Day invasion of German held Normandy, and he flew countless missions over France, Holland and Germany itself.

This man was a highly trained fighter pilot, a battle hardened veteran, a pilot who had, many times over, faced death, and survived. How can we believe the 'tale', that this man, whose very existence depended on his split-second ability to judge type, speed and altitude of aircraft, died while chasing, of all things, the elusive planet Venus?!

The aircraft itself, as previously stated, was a North American

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P-51 Mustang, an aircraft that, in many pilots views, was THE plane, a superb machine. It had proved itself over and over again during W.W. II and it went on to prove itself again in the 1950's during the Korean war (and it still goes on, in many small Air forces around the globe). It was a versatile and trustworthy aircraft to new and veteran pilots alike. With a top speed of 430 mph+, and a ceiling of approx. 42,000 feet, it made an ideal pursuit 'plane.

All in all, a very good aircraft to go chase Venus in.

A lot of things have been learnt about aviation since the far off days of the '40's. We now know the reason why pilots blackout in high speed dives, and we understand about 'G' forces, and now they can rip the human frame apart.

So what of the reasons given for Mantell's crash? As you have read, the U.S.A.F. said it was due to him passing the safe ceiling in his aircraft, and not being equipped with an oxygen supply. This I cannot accept, for two reasons. Firstly, a pilot of Mantell's past experience would have known about the safe ceiling etc., and no matter what the circumstances, he would'nt have committed such a foolhardy...and deadly...act. Secondly, in his book, "Situation Red: UFO seige", L. Stringfield transcribes Mantell's wingmans recently published statement that throws new light on the case. The wingman says that Mantell did in fact have an oxygen supply in his aircraft on the day of his death. But ignoring the wingmans statement, put yourself in the Captains place, give yourself his vast experience, and ask yourself, would you have acted like a fresh, unknowing 'rookie' pilot out on his first solo flight?

I think the answer must be no, for Mantell was a first rate flyer, and as I have said, would not have made such a mistake.

I believe the last two pages are food for thought, and I am sure that somewhere in the hidden, secret files of the USAF, there may lie a clue to what really happened on that day, in the not so distant past, when a young, but experienced pilot, became the 20th century's first UFO martyr.

Editor's Note:

On the following page you will find a copy of a letter sent to Skyscan by the Ministry of Defence on 26th August 1977. It is rather an informative letter concerning UFO sightings held by the Ministry of Defence, we thank Skyscan for letting us print it.

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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Telephone 01-218 (Direct Dialling)
01-218 9000 (Switchboard)

Received 30 August '77

Your reference

Mr A Green
Skyscan
c/o 59 Rydal Close
Warndon
Worcester.

Our reference

D/S4(Air)/8/2/1B

Date

26th August 1977

Dear

Thank you for your letter dated 17th August 1977 about Unidentified Flying Objects

I regret to say that the Ministry of Defence has not the staff to undertake any correspondence on this subject or to make available statistics or other records of UFO sightings reported to them. We are grateful for the reports sent to us and these are referred to specialist authorities in the Department to see if they have any bearing on the defence of this country. But we are unable to carry out investigations beyond this point either to establish the positive identity of the object seen or to treat Unidentified Flying Objects as the subject of independent scientific study.

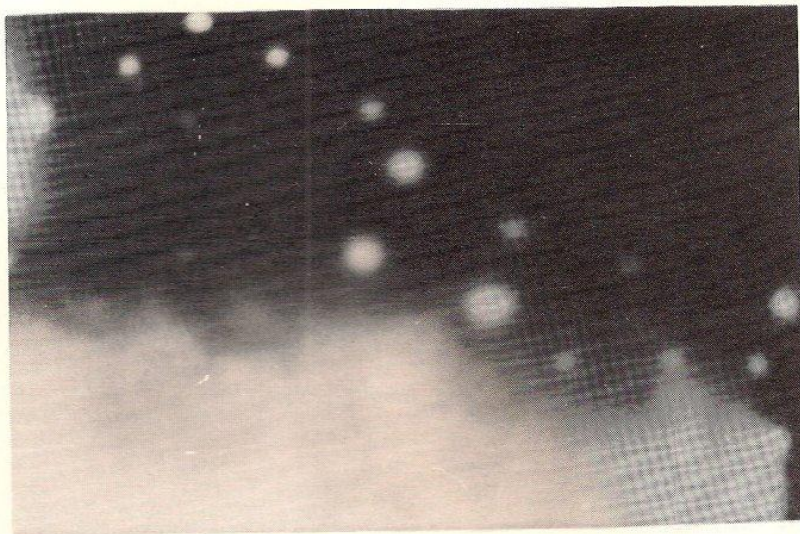
The records of past sightings are closed to the public because publication would involve a good deal of editorial work both to preserve the anonymity of the people who have written to us and also to delete any references to classified subjects. We have not the resources to undertake this editing at present and there is no guarantee that it will be undertaken in the future. The files must therefore remain closed under the rules laid down by the Public Records Acts which at present preclude disclosure until 30 years have elapsed since the last action taken on them. The earliest UFO records we hold are dated 1962.

I can assure you, however, that simple explanations are found for the great majority of UFO reports, the most common single source of sightings being aircraft or the lights of aircraft seen under unusual meteorological conditions. Other common sources have proved to be astronomical sightings, space satellites or space junk, balloons, unusual cloud formations or aircraft condensation trails. Investigations over a number of years have so far produced no evidence that UFOs represent a threat to the air defences of this country.

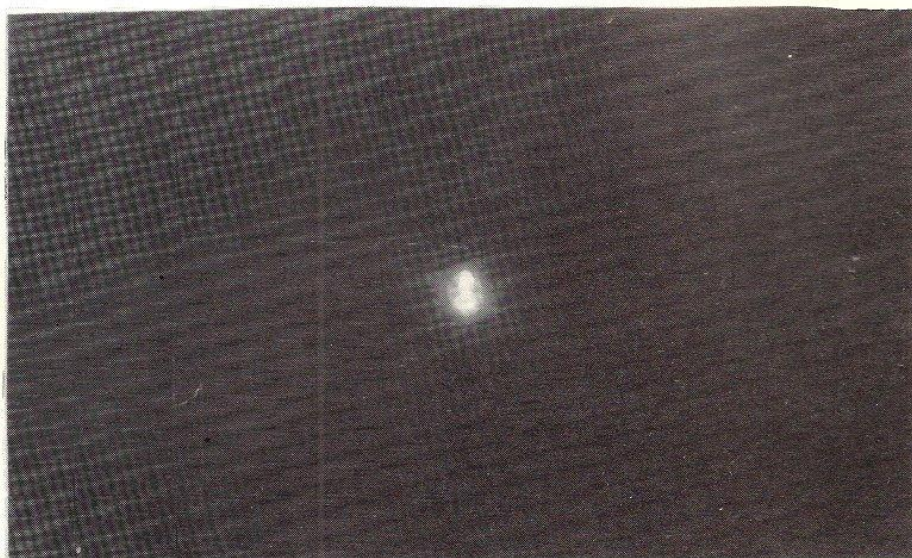
Yours faithfully

J. McBlane

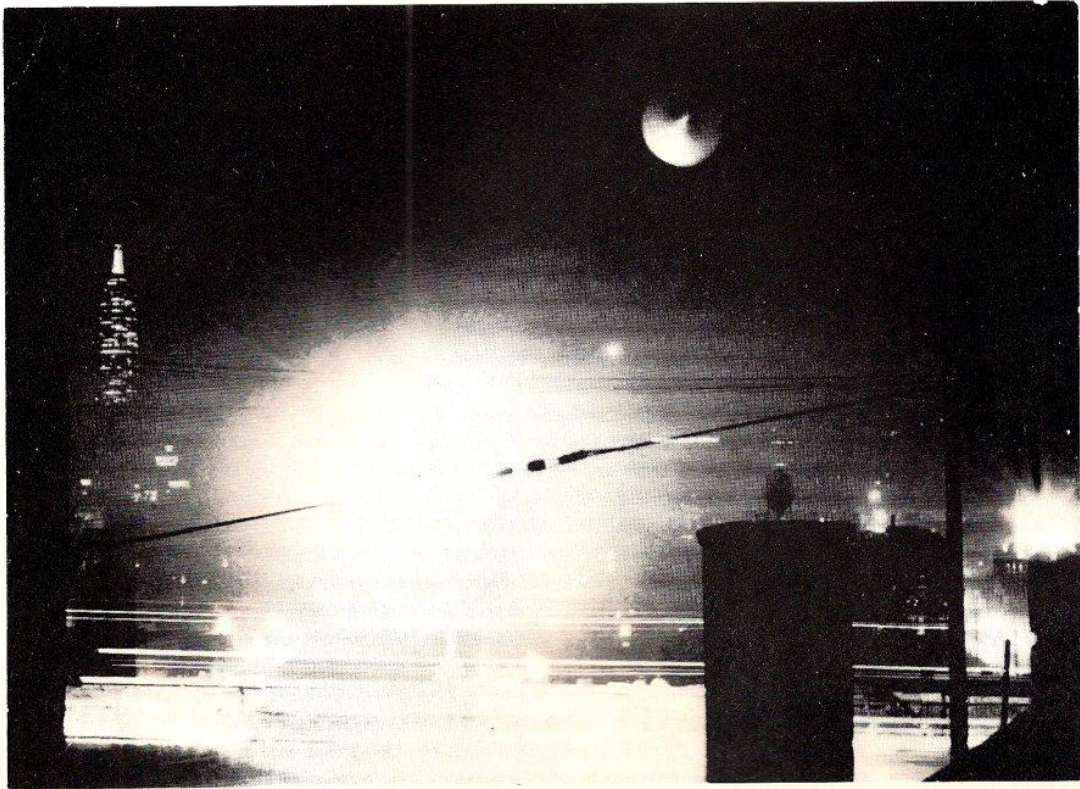
MISS J MCBLANE



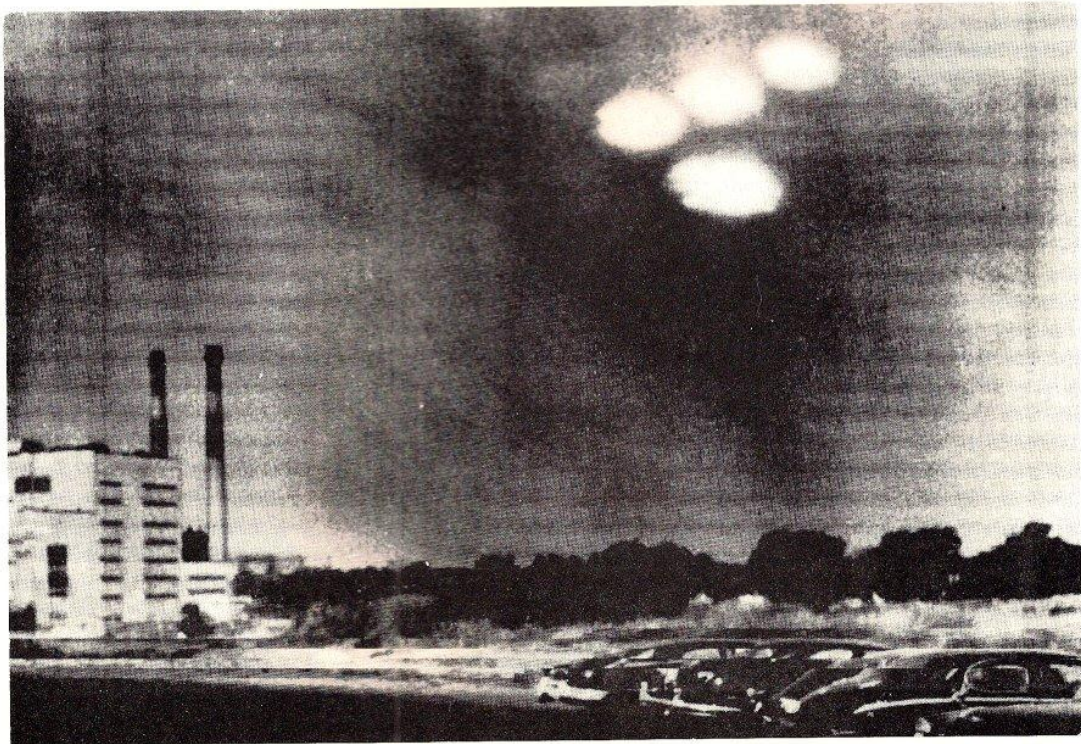
Part of the formation known as the "Lubbock Lights" photographed by Carl Hart Junior over Texas on 30th August 1951. Some scientists think they may be reflected light from flying geese.



Strange effect that appeared on the negative of a shot of an apparent "satellite". The satellite did not show but this mysterious light appeared. Taken in Autumn 1976. (See "Amber Gambler Mystery: Solved?").



UFO over New York, photographed by August C. Roberts on 28th July 1952.



Formation of UFO's taken over Massachusetts, U.S.A. on 16th July 1952 by a Coast Guard. Nowadays thought to be reflection on the windscreen, (taken from the inside of a car).