

A "Delta-winged" oddity

Strange UFO glides low over a Staffordshire village

Mrs. M. L. Till

THE year that I saw the object was 1964. I am unable to give you the exact date as I lost my diary, but it was about September or early October and the time roughly 12.45 a.m. I was outside satellite spotting whilst waiting to use the bathroom. Hearing a noise like an electric motor, I turned to look for lights at a farm and was surprised to see everywhere in darkness. The sky at the time was dark, with a slight horizon glow from a town about eight miles away over the hills.

It was then that a black silhouette rose, so it seemed, from behind the damson trees by the garage. I could not have moved had I wished! As soon as I saw the red light on it I relaxed and watched it coming slowly onwards. I shall never forget it. I was intrigued rather than scared. As a designer, I want to know the how and what about everything. Moving at about 5 m.p.h., the triangular object cleared our TV aerial by approximately 10-12ft. The height of the cottage is 16ft. to the eaves. The damson trees are about 22ft. high. Judging its size in relation to the cottage, the object was 30-35ft. wide; the length was not accurately observed due to the fact that my attention was drawn to other details, but I would guess it to have been about 40ft. The distance from where I stood to the back of the garage was 40ft. exactly, and to the point where the object was first seen, approximately 60ft. (please see diagram).

The colour of the object was dark metallic grey and I could see streaks in what I took to be paintwork, as though the coating was applied very thickly. There was a panel lying along the centre, the colour of red-hot metal, the glow from which enabled me to make out the colour of the bodywork. However, the panel was *not* of metal. It seemed to be composed of a material like perspex, set in a double row of nine squares, moulded, translucent and faceted. A bar of brighter light of a more orange hue moved along the panel in number order, i.e. after 9 came 1, 2, 3 etc., at roughly $\frac{1}{2}$ -second intervals. I looked in particular for signs of a glow from a cabin, but the craft seemed automatic—no sign of port-holes or cabin. There was no light at the front or *below* the wing-tips, but when the object was 15 yards ahead, i.e. across the lane, I noticed an oval-shaped light at each tip, magenta in colour, apparently inside a hollow channel. The sound which the object gave off was like a gentle "singing" purr, like a small electric motor. The tone or note was G natural.

My impressions during the sighting ran like this:

"That panel has something to do with the propulsion: caterpillar tractor-wise.

"Almost soundless—not jet, not piston. Electric?"

"How the devil does it go so slowly?"

"It lifts over trees, sinks again over the fields, rises again over the next clump of trees.

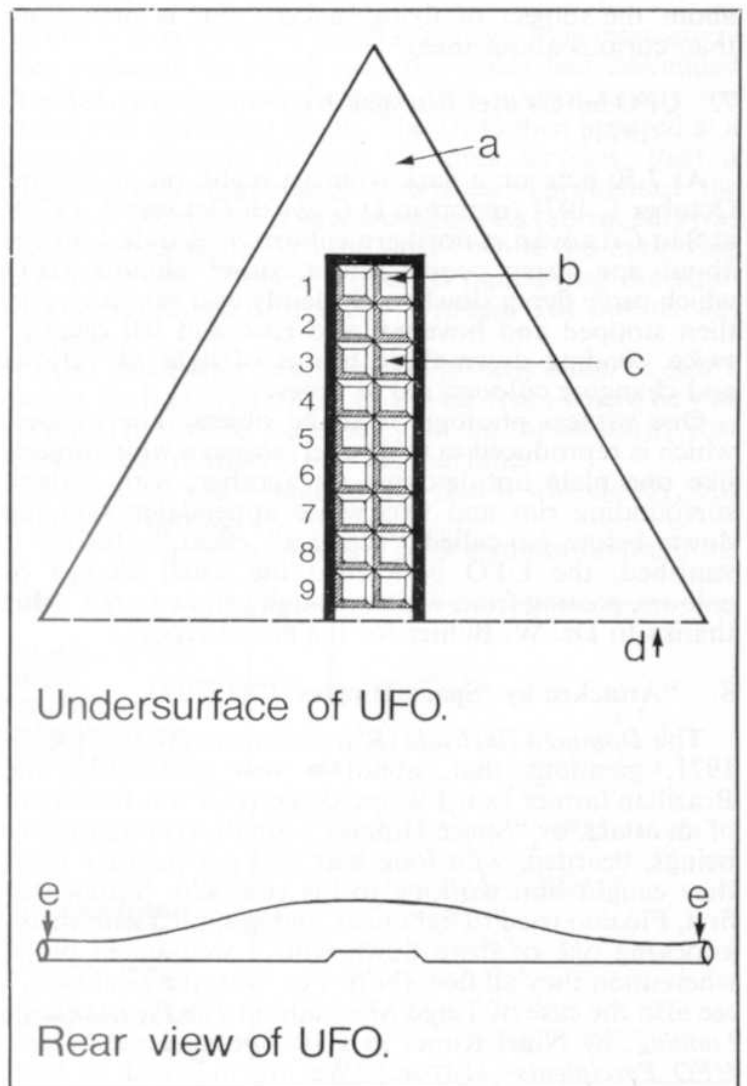
"Where is it beaming in? P.O. tower at Macclesfield Road?"

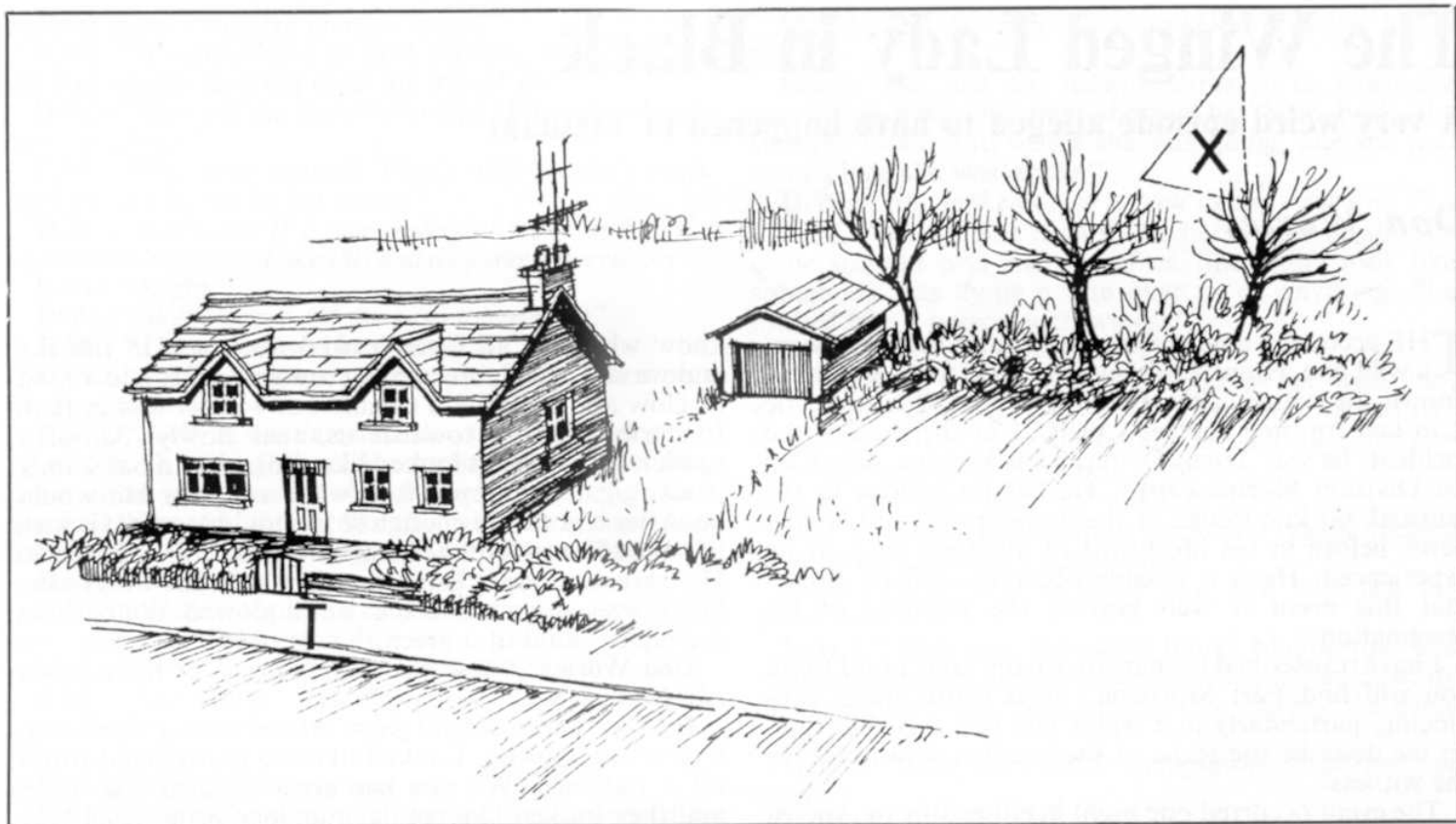
"Might be an Army or RAF experimental thing.

"Odd. All aircraft have red and green lights. Those wing-tips are strange, like neon reflecting down a tube.

"Beautiful thing, designed with maximum external simplicity."

I described the sighting to my husband who was waiting to hear what the strange humming noise had been. I cannot say we are not sky-watchers. We saw our first inexplicable object in the 1950s, and have been interested since. The route of this delta-wing-type object,





T: Mrs. Till's position, X: the object

considering it was so close to towns, was strangely over the most sparsely inhabited line of country around. The location of the sighting was 4 miles from Rudyard Lake, the nearest town being Leek, five miles away as the crow flies; Stoke-on-Trent is eight miles distant.

Postscript

We now live near Pwllheli in North Wales, and a curious incident was reported to me last February. A farmer asked: "Do you know anything about fireballs or meteorites?"

"A little," I replied, and then, cautiously . . . "why?"

"Last week I went out for logs and suddenly across the yard a bright red ball of fire suddenly shot **up** from the ground. It had a trail of sparks, and shot up into the

sky away over towards Aberdaron." [A village at the western tip of the Llyn Peninsula—EDITOR.] A pause, then he continued: "We have seen red balls of fire with trails of sparks swishing over once or twice this winter."

He is a sane and sober individual, and he nodded when I said he'd probably seen bits of satellites breaking up and burning out on re-entry. However, I ducked away from commenting on the one that went "up".

A close encounter at Tatebayasi

(Continued from page 11)

Further points

A weather map for 9.00 p.m. of that day showed that Tokyo and Nigata had cloudy weather: low atmospheric pressure and an associated cold front was over the southern part of Honsiu, while there was high atmospheric pressure over the northern part of the Continent of Asia.

The reported object has all the characteristics of the oft-reported "Saturn-shaped UFO."

This event is significant as well as interesting, for it is the first instance of a (possible) landing in Japan.

THE WARMINSTER PHOTOGRAPHS: A RUMOUR

A disquieting rumour reached us recently, concerning the validity of the photographs of a luminous 'something' taken from Cradle Hill on March 28, 1970. Accordingly we are making further enquiries, as also is Mr. John Ben, who is as disturbed as we are about the rumour. We expect to advise readers of the outcome of our enquiries in the next issue of *Flying Saucer Review*.

EDITOR.