

17. The most telling argument of all is that the scientific community is unmoved by the claims of ufology. A visitor from outer space - or from another space time continuum<sup>um</sup>, or the depths of the sea, or anywhere else they are supposed to be hiding - would be<sup>one</sup> of the greatest events in human history, and the greatest scientific event. You would expect serious and sensible scientists to be devoting much time and effort to making contact with these supposed space people. The scientific community is as unimpressed as the Government. If the ufologists claim that the Government has gagged the scientific community, it would be as amazing as the alleged conspiracy of silence between Governments.

18. One could go on indefinitely trying to chase the elusive - indeed devious - arguments of the ufologists. Yes, there has been an increase in the number of 'sightings' reported to the Government: the biggest upsurges occurred when the BBC put out a programme on UFOs, and when the Daily Express launched a campaign in connection with the film premiere of 'Close Encounters of the Third Kind'. No, the Government is not in the least concerned by the increases. [As has been said] Grenada is financing a study into UFOs, and the United Nations has, in a moment of casualness, given that study a vague sort of recognition, and one or two other countries have offered to contribute reports. Her Majesty's Government, if it contributes at all, will contribute on the lines of my speech.

19. There are tens of thousands of strange things to see in the sky. It has become fashionable to call these things 'UFOs'. There are perfectly sensible explanations for these sightings. The ufologist explanations are not sensible at all. In 1968