

"Anyway, with reference to what I saw on my trip to Gatwick on Monday 1st September 2008, here is my account of what took place.

I was en route to collect my neighbour's wife and children from her return trip from Toronto. Her time of arrival was 11am, I was advised by my neighbour that I should plan to be there about 11.30am, although I wanted to be a little earlier on arrival for parking and a coffee, but found myself running late after getting to grips with a new Satellite Navigation system and moments of slow motorway traffic.

At about 11.05am I was still travelling south, somewhere from the M25 to the M23. I would have to provide a 'guesstimate' of my rough location after tracing my route and being some 20-25 minutes away from Gatwick Airport itself and on the M23 southbound.

Because I was working with a brand new Sat Nav system I could not immediately identify my spot location from the map view (I had a Navman which was in a planned route mode and gave a limited view of where I was). But I think I was on the M23 not too far from the M25 junction .

It was raining to some degree, I had my windscreen wipers operated and car windscreen was clean and without mist with car air-con functional (I drive a Volvo V70). I was in the central lane paying attention to driving hazards and traffic progression (this being skills learnt from the Institute Advanced Motorists standards and police driving standards), basically scanning from horizon to car bonnet and back to horizon taking into account all traffic and it's local environment.

●times I would glance in to the sky to try to get view of flights in bound to Gatwick and an idea of my closeness to destination. It was at this point soon after I saw a flash and bright light in the sky and immediately associated it with a plane or helicopter (where I live in Waltham Abbey gives a regular view of commercial type flights and helicopter flights as a Met police helicopter landing site is near my house about 1 mile. I waited to identify either a jet plane or helicopter. The bright light stopped and (I expected to see the plane or helicopter) allowed a side profile to be viewed as the air-borne vehicle travelled from left to right.

At all times I continued to have casual peripheral vision on the motorway traffic which was continuous and regular. I continued to watch the sky not thinking anything unusual and then this oval shaped object (I now realise it could only match a helicopter in it's side profile was missing it's rear tail), accelerated at a colossal speed, faster than any aircraft I have or been aware of accelerating before and base this on attending airshows as a child and even seeing jet fighters fly over my junior school when a child in Loughton, Essex on the 1970's which included the sound boom.

This unusual oval shaped Ariel vehicle, after accelerating, just vanished out of view. It was quite small in size and appeared to be below cloud cover, but I cannot say categorically. Until it disappeared it was constant and visible and perhaps 1 mile away, but this is hard to say. Overall, this incident lasted for about 5 - 10 seconds. Once it had disappeared, I had limited time to re-assess it's location as my road position changed and meant I had to look to my right and through my driver's door window.

I have not reported this to MOD, for a limited information feedback reason, I have been aware of such matters in the past as I have paid casual attention to this interest since the mid 1990's (during my time in the Met Police) and relevant book releases and programmes.

I would be happy to discuss this further if necessary.

Regards,