



**BOOK AND
MULTIMEDIA
REVIEW**

Triangular UFOs of the United Kingdom

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Triangular-shaped UAPs have been reported throughout the modern era of the phenomenon, with various hypotheses espoused to explain the observations, such as stealth aircraft and the influence of science fiction (Clarke, 2012). The psychosocial hypothesis (psychological/ social aetiology for UAP) underpins the latter hypothesis. Individuals misperceive conventional objects or stimuli due to their perceptions being influenced by cultural sources and/ or psychological predispositions (Bullard, 2010). Others argue that such hypotheses are unsatisfactory as they fail to consider historical cases that existed prior to the creation of stealth aircraft and science fiction films, such as Star Wars (Marler, 2013), and that many of the characteristics of well-investigated triangular UAP cases are not congruent with the characteristics of conventional aircraft (Fowler, 1996; Powell et al., 2024). A few books/ reports have addressed triangular-shaped UAP reports, the most well-known being *Triangular UFOs*, written by David Marler (2013).

The book *Triangular UFOs of the United Kingdom*, the first book-length treatise of triangular UAP reported in the UK, offers a detailed exploration of triangular-shaped Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) sightings within the UK, focusing heavily on the author's encounter in 1999. The author, a professional draughtsman with experience in the aviation industry, delivers a meticulous account of his close-range observation, providing detailed descriptions and illustrations of the triangular UAP. This personal experience forms the book's foundation and lends a degree of technical credibility to the work, given the author's background. In addition to recounting his experience, the author compiles numerous reports of triangular UAP sightings from various locations across the UK.

The author provides dozens of witness accounts, primarily obtained via other researchers, newspapers, and social media. Although many of them are intriguing, with reported characteristics that are difficult to reconcile with conventional aircraft/ phenomena (e.g., lack of control surfaces/ apparent instantaneous acceleration), there is little information on the investigation of the reports, or the criteria utilised in their selection. Many reports appear unfiltered; they consist of witness accounts but do not appear to have been investigated to determine the credibility/ reliability of the witness(s) or if they are amenable to a prosaic explanation. As this is not an academic treatise on the subject, it is not a central critique; however, it must be recognised that the reports likely encompass both UAPs and instances of misidentified stimuli. For any statistical study or comparison of reports, it is a prerequisite that the reports have been filtered (Hynek, 1972). As an example, Powell et al. (2024) recently conducted a study of UAP characteristics in relation to the shape of



the UAP, including triangular UAPs. They utilised stringent criteria to select cases, making it very unlikely that the reports were misidentifications of conventional phenomena. Thus, a comparison of the reports was viable.

A chapter also details alleged paranormal occurrences that the author and other witnesses of triangular UAP experienced after their observations. The author contends there is a link between UAP reports and the paranormal; in his opinion, the objects are interdimensional rather than extraterrestrial. The paranormal hypothesis for UAPs became prominent in the late 1960s, correlating with an increase in the strangeness of some UAP reports. Authors such as Vallée and Keel were prominent in expounding ideas that UAPs are perhaps just one form/ manifestation of a phenomenon that is not amenable to scientific analysis- insisting that the field of UAP studies must incorporate reports of cattle mutilations, crop circles and the denizens of Magonia, such as fairies and sprites (Vallée, 1969; Keel, 1970). Others contend that such argumentation needs to be revised and that the links between UAP and other phenomena are tenuous (Dines, 2020), especially when one reviews the core UAP phenomenon- those reports, such as radar visual and landing trace cases, that are amenable to scientific analysis (Clark, 2018).

Although many of the alleged paranormal occurrences are interesting, additional information on the witnesses, such as previous paranormal experiences (prior to the UAP experience), would have been beneficial. Further, some of the claims have potential prosaic explanations. As a specific example, one witness reports that after she observed a triangular UAP in the 1970s and reported it to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), she was visited by two men who claimed they were from the MOD- the author suggests that these were “men in black”, the details provided do not strongly support a paranormal explanation, and they could have simply been “men from the ministry”.

A central critique of this book is that it omits footnotes, references, and an index, making it difficult for readers to trace the origin of many of the reports. This absence

of sourcing undermines the work, particularly for readers seeking a more scholarly approach to the phenomenon. Additionally, there are some grammatical and formatting issues, such as misaligned images and page numbers that do not correspond with the chapters (contents page). These issues, while not central to the book’s argument, detract from its presentation. Overall, however, the book provides numerous accounts of interesting UAP observations, including the detailed observation of the author, that have characteristics that correlate with other triangular UAP reports worldwide, including filtered reports. For those interested in such reports, the book is a worthwhile addition to the library.

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