**REF: 282** 

# The Paragon Multimedia DVD, VHS Collection

Title: UFO (British TV Series) Complete (New Sealed nice!)

[8 Disc] [26 Episodes]



GERRY ANDERSON'S

THE COMPLETE SERIES

ISBN: 5037115379030

## **Information**

Release Title: UFO (British Series) 1970-1971 (United Kingdom)

16<sup>th</sup> September 1970

**Publication:** 

Countries of origin: United Kingdom

Release date: United States, – 16<sup>th</sup> September 1972 AKA: Also known as: The Labyrinth of the Faun

Genres: Action Sci-Fi

Disc Nos. 1-8 Certification: 12

Duration: 45m x12 1265 mins

Region Code:

Region:

Product Code: MPN: 3711537903 EAN: 5037115379030

UPC:

Languages: English

Filming locations: MGM British Studios, Borehamwood, Hertfordshire, England, UK (Harlington-Straker

Studios as SHADO HQ. Frontage and some interior shots)

Sound mix: Mono

Colour

Aspect Ratio: 1.33:1



## 1. Title: UFO (British Series)

## **Storyline**

The series' premise is that in 1980 (a date indicated repeatedly in the opening credits), Earth is being visited by aliens from a dying planet, who are abducting humans and harvesting their organs for their own bodies. The alien incursions may also be a prelude to a possible full-scale invasion. The series' main cast of characters are the staff of a secret, high-technology international military agency called SHADO (an acronym for Supreme Headquarters Alien Defence Organisation) established by the governments of the United Kingdom, the United States, the Soviet Union, France and Germany (believed to be West Germany as the city of Bonn is mentioned along with Washington, Paris and Moscow) to defend Earth and humanity against the mysterious aliens and learn more about them, while at the same time keeping the threat of an alien invasion hidden from the public.

Quick Storyline Review: In 1980, the Earth is threatened by an alien race who kidnap and kill humans and use them for body parts. A highly secret military organization is set up in the hope of defending the Earth from this alien threat. This organization is named SHADO (Supreme Headquarters Alien Defence Organization) and operates from a secret location beneath a film studio. They also operate a fleet of submarines and have a base on the moon as well as an early warning satellite that detects inbound UFOs. UFOs can be destroyed in space by Interceptors which are launched from Moon base. If one gets through it can be attacked in the Earth's atmosphere by a high-altitude aircraft launched from one of the submarines. If a UFO also avoids this and manages to land it can be tracked and destroyed by a number of Mobiles (armoured vehicles) which are deployed throughout the world. — Kevin Steinhauer < K.Steinhauer IMDb

### **Cast**

UFO had a large ensemble cast; many of its members would come and go during the course of the series, with some actors—such as George Sewell and Gabrielle Drake—leaving midway through the series, during the production break necessitated by the change of studio facilities. It is established early on that SHADO personnel rotate between positions, so the occasional disappearance of characters—some of whom would later return in other positions—fits the concept of the series. Also, owing to the scheduling of the series not reflecting the production order, some episodes featuring departed cast members were not broadcast until late in the series, which can give the impression that no major cast changes occurred. Only Ed Bishop appeared in every episode Wiki

Colonel Edward "Ed" Straker (Ed Bishop), Commander-in-chief of SHADO, is a former American Air Force colonel, pilot and astronaut originally from Boston, Massachusetts, who organised SHADO following a series of UFO attacks in 1970. Straker masquerades as the head of Harlington-Straker Film Studios, SHADO Headquarters being located directly below the studio.

Colonel Paul Foster (Michael Billington) is introduced in the second episode "Exposed". A former test pilot, his plane was critically damaged when SHADO's Sky One intercepted and destroyed a UFO flying near Foster's jet. His persistent investigation of the incident threatened to expose SHADO's existence, so Straker offered him a position with SHADO.

Lieutenant Gay Ellis (Gabrielle Drake), seen as Moon base commander during the first half of the series. Lt. Ellis is occasionally portrayed as lacking self-confidence, and at other times as a take-charge officer. She is briefly reassigned to SHADO HQ when it is suggested that she may be romantically involved with interceptor pilot Mark Bradley ("Computer Affair").

Colonel Alec Freeman (George Sewell), Second-in-command of SHADO, a former pilot and intelligence officer, is SHADO's first officer (and very first operative recruited into SHADO by Straker) for 17 episodes in the series (Sewell left following the change of studios, being later unavailable when series production resumed at Pinewood Studios). Freeman is Straker's closest friend and right-hand man and, occasionally, his muscle.

General James Henderson (Grant Taylor), President of IAC, Straker's superior officer, serves as the president of the International Astrophysical Commission, which is a front for SHADO and is responsible for obtaining funds and equipment from various governments to keep SHADO operational. Straker and Henderson clash frequently over the needs of SHADO and economic realities.

Colonel Virginia Lake (Wanda Ventham) first appears in the opening episode ("Identified"), as the chief designer for Westbrook Electronics, the contractor for the SHADO's Utronics faster-than-light tracking system. During the last eight episodes, Lake returned to take over the post of SHADO first officer, replacing Alec Freeman.

Captain Peter Carlin (Peter Gordeno), during the first third of the series, Carlin is the commander of the submarine Skydiver and pilot of its interceptor aircraft, Sky One. In 1970, Carlin and his sister found a UFO and were attacked; he was shot and wounded and his sister vanished. He joined SHADO in the hope of finding out what happened to his sister, and eventually learned that her organs had been harvested in "Identified." Gordeno left the show after six episodes because he wanted to avoid typecasting.

Lieutenant Nina Barry (Dolores Mantez) is one of Straker's first recruits into SHADO. Barry works as a space tracker at Moon base and later replaces Lieutenant Ellis as its commanding officer. She also serves aboard Skydiver in "Sub-Smash".

Captain Lew Waterman (Gary Myers) is initially an interceptor pilot on the Moon; he is later promoted to captain, and replaces Peter Carlin as commanding officer of Skydiver and pilot of Sky One.

Lieutenant Keith Ford (Keith Alexander) is a former television interviewer who became a founding member of SHADO and its main communications officer. Actor Keith Alexander left the series after the production break, so the character disappears at the two-thirds mark of the series.

Lieutenant Ayshea Johnson (Ayshea Brough) is a SHADO headquarters officer in 14 episodes, and later becomes SHADO's communications officer following the departure of Lt. Ford.

Doctor Douglas Jackson (Vladek Sheybal) is the SHADO psychiatrist and science officer. He serves a number of capacities within SHADO, including acting as prosecution officer during the court-martial of Paul Foster. It is implied that "Douglas Jackson" is not the character's birth name, as he speaks with a strong Eastern European accent.

Lieutenant Joan Harrington (Antonia Ellis) another Moon base operative, was one of the organisation's earliest recruits, as seen in "Confetti Check A-O.K.".

Miss Ealand (Norma Ronald) is a SHADO operative who masquerades as Straker's movie studio secretary. She is the first line of defence against anyone entering SHADO HQ via Straker's office/elevator. The character is not seen in most of the post-studio change episodes, being replaced in two episodes by Miss Holland, played by Lois Maxwell.

Lieutenant Mark Bradley (Harry Baird) is a Caribbean-born interceptor pilot based on the Moon. He becomes romantically involved with Lieutenant Ellis for a time, leading to a temporary assignment at SHADO HQ on Earth, and later briefly assumes the position of Moon base commander. Baird left the series after filming four episodes, but appeared in stock footage in two later episodes.

#### **Minor characters**

One of the female Moon base operatives, Joanna, was played by Shakira Baksh, who later married Michael Caine. Producer Gerry Anderson later said that he had lost his temper with her so badly on the set of UFO that he always feared the idea of running into Michael Caine at some actors' function, and being punched on the nose by him.

Interceptor pilot Steve Minto was played by Steven Berkoff.

Lieutenant Sylvia Howell, a Skydiver technician, was played by Georgina Moon. Wiki

#### **Parental Guidance**

#### Certification

Australia:PG Germany:12 (DVD rating) Norway:12 (recommended rating) United Kingdom:12 (2016, Blu-ray rating) United States:TV-PG

Sex & Nudity – Mild, Violence & Gore - Mild , Profanity- Mild, Alcohol, drugs & Smoking- Mild, Frightening & Intense Scenes - Mild





#### **Broadcast & Episodes:**

Owing to the fragmented nature of the ITV network in the United Kingdom at the time, the 26 episodes of UFO were broadcast out of production order, and every broadcaster showed the episodes in a different sequence. The list below, drawn from Chris Bentley's The Complete Book of Gerry Anderson's UFO, details the running order shown on ATV (in the Midlands). The North American DVD release of the series usually follows the production order, with a few diversions; a website ufoseries.com for the show offers seven possibilities of viewing sequence. According to The Complete Gerry Anderson, the episode "Exposed" was intended to be aired second, but it was produced fifth and appears as the fifth episode in the American DVD release. It was only when the entire series was repeated by BBC Two in 1996–1997 that the series was shown in chronological production order in the UK for the first time.

| No.         | Title                          | Directed by          | Written by                                      | Original ATV broadcast date    |
|-------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| 1           | "Identified"                   | Gerry Anderson       | Gerry and Sylvia Anderson and Tony<br>Barwick   | 16 September 1970              |
| SHA<br>nim. | DO officially goes into opera  | tion and encounter   | rs its first UFO. An alien pilot is captured ar | nd discovered to have transpla |
| 2           | "Exposed"                      | David Lane           | Tony Barwick                                    | 23 September 1970              |
| After       | civilian test pilot Paul Foste | r is caught in a UF  | O incident, he persistently strives to expose   | e the truth.                   |
| 3           | "The Cat with Ten Lives"       | David Tomblin        | David Tomblin                                   | 30 September 1970              |
| A SH        | HADO interceptor pilot is plac | ed under a hypnot    | ic spell by an alien-influenced cat.            |                                |
| 4           | "Conflict"                     | Ken Turner           | Ruric Powell                                    | 7 October 1970                 |
| After       | a moon shuttle is mysteriou    | sly destroyed, Stra  | ker campaigns to have space junk remove         | ed from Earth's orbit.         |
| 5           | "A Question of Priorities"     | David Lane           | Tony Barwick                                    | 14 October 1970                |
| Stral       | ker faces a terrible decision: | attend to an alien ( | defector or deliver life-saving medicine to h   | is critically injured son.     |
| 6           | "E.S.P."                       | Ken Turner           | Alan Fennell                                    | 21 October 1970                |
| A ma        | an with ESP knowledge of SI    | HADO is co-opted     | by the aliens.                                  |                                |
| 7           | "Kill Straker!"                | Alan Perry           | Donald James                                    | 4 November 1970                |
| Fost        |                                |                      | Craig, are brainwashed by aliens to kill St     | raker                          |
| 8           | "Sub-Smash"                    | David Lane           | Alan Fennell                                    | 11 November 1970               |
|             |                                |                      | diver submarine is damaged and unable to        |                                |
|             |                                |                      |   | 2 December 1970                |
| 9           | "Destruction"                  | Ken Turner           | Dennis Spooner                                  |                                |
|             |                                |                      | mping sealed containers of highly toxic ner     |                                |
| 10          | "The Square Triangle"          | David Lane           | Alan Pattillo                                   | 9 December 1970                |
| SHA         |                                | elves in the midst o | f a murderous romantic triangle.                |                                |
| 11          | "Close Up"                     | Alan Perry           | Tony Barwick                                    | 16 December 1970               |
| SHA         | DO obtains what may be the     | first photos of the  | alien home world.                               |                                |
| 12          | "The Psychobombs"              | Jeremy<br>Summers    | Tony Barwick                                    | 30 December 1970               |
| The         | aliens transform three huma    | ns into walking bor  | mbs.  |                                |
| 13          | "Survival"                     | Alan Perry           | Tony Barwick                                    | 6 January 1971                 |
| Fost        | er is stranded on the Moon's   | surface, where he    | befriends a similarly stranded alien.           |                                |
| 14          | "Mindbender"                   | Ken Turner           | Tony Barwick                                    | 13 January 1971                |
| An a        | lien crystal causes Lieutenar  | nt Andy Conroy, St   | raker and other SHADO operatives to hallu       | ıcinate.                       |
| 15          | "Flight Path"                  | Ken Turner           | Ian Scott Stewart                               | 20 January 1971                |
| A bla       | ackmailed SHADO operative      | opens the door for   | a possible alien attack on Moonbase.            | -                              |
|             | "The Man Who Came              |                      |   |                                |
| 16          | Back"                          | David Lane           | Terence Feely                                   | 3 February 1971                |
| A SH        | HADO pilot believed dead su    | ddenly turns up ali  | ve – much to a SHADO operative's suspici        | on.                            |
| 17          | "The Dalotek Affair"           | Alan Perry           | Ruric Powell                                    | 10 February 1971               |
| Com         | munications problems at Mo     | onbase are traced    | to a non-SHADO mining operation.                |                                |
| 18          | "Timelash"                     | Cyril Frankel        | Terence Feely                                   | 17 February 1971               |
|             |                                | -                    | Straker, Colonel Lake and a mysterious ene      | -                              |
| 19          | "Ordeal"                       | Ken Turner           | Tony Barwick                                    | 24 April 1971                  |
|             | DO races to rescue Foster a    |                      | •   |                                |
| 20          | "Court Martial"                | Ron Appleton         | Tony Barwick                                    | 1 May 1971                     |
|             |                                |                      | a security leak is traced to him.               | 1 Way 1971                     |
|             |                                |                      | -   | 45 May 4074                    |
| 21          | "Computer Affair"              | David Lane           | Tony Barwick                                    | 15 May 1971                    |
|             |                                |                      | pe complicating Moonbase operations.            |                                |
| 22          | "Confetti Check A-O.K."        | David Lane           | Tony Barwick                                    | 10 July 1971                   |
| A fla       | shback episode focusing on     | SHADO's formatio     | n and how it caused the failure of Straker's    | marriage.                      |
| 23          | "The Sound of Silence"         | David Lane           | David Lane and Bob Bell                         | 17 July 1971                   |
| A sh        | ow jumper is abducted by the   | e aliens.            |   |                                |
| 24          | "Reflections in the Water"     | David Tomblin        | David Tomblin                                   | 24 July 1971                   |
| Stral       | ker and Foster investigate an  | undersea alien ba    | ase where SHADO and its personnel have          | been duplicated.               |
| 25          | "The Responsibility Seat"      | Alan Perry           | Tony Barwick                                    | 31 July 1971                   |
| Stral       | ker is attracted to a reporter | who poses a possi    | ble security leak for SHADO.                    |                                |
| 26          | "The Long Sleep"               | Cyril Frankel        | David Tomblin                                   | 7 August 1971                  |
|             | 9                              | ,                    |   |                                |







