

REF: 282

The Paragon Multimedia DVD, VHS Collection

Title: **UFO (British TV Series) Complete** (New Sealed nice!)
[8 Disc] [26 Episodes]



Library Image



ISBN: 5037115379030

Information

Release Title: **UFO (British Series)** 1970-1971 (United Kingdom)
16th September 1970

Publication:

Countries of origin: United Kingdom

Release date: United States, – 16th 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

UFO	
	
Genre	Science fiction
Created by	Gerry & Sylvia Anderson Reg Hill
Starring	Keith Alexander Harry Baird Michael Billington Ed Bishop Ayshea Brough Gabrielle Drake Antonia Ellis Peter Gorden Dolores Mantez Gary Myers Norma Ronald George Sewell Vladek Sheybal Grant Taylor Wanda Ventham ^[1]
Music by	Barry Gray
Country of origin	United Kingdom
Original language	English
No. of series	1
No. of episodes	26
Production	
Executive producer	Gerry Anderson
Producers	Reg Hill Gerry Anderson
Cinematography	Brendan J. Stafford
Editors	Alan Killick Harry MacDonald Len Walter Lee Doig Mike Campbell
Running time	50 minutes
Production company	Century 21 Television Productions
Budget	£2.6 million ^[2]
Original release	
Network	ITV
Release	16 September 1970 – 7 August 1971 (ATV Midlands)

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 Gorden), 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." Gorden 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 Barwick	16 September 1970
SHADO officially goes into operation and encounters its first UFO. An alien pilot is captured and discovered to have transplanted him.				
2	"Exposed"	David Lane	Tony Barwick	23 September 1970
After civilian test pilot Paul Foster is caught in a UFO incident, he persistently strives to expose the truth.				
3	"The Cat with Ten Lives"	David Tomblin	David Tomblin	30 September 1970
A SHADO interceptor pilot is placed under a hypnotic spell by an alien-influenced cat.				
4	"Conflict"	Ken Turner	Ruric Powell	7 October 1970
After a moon shuttle is mysteriously destroyed, Straker campaigns to have space junk removed from Earth's orbit.				
5	"A Question of Priorities"	David Lane	Tony Barwick	14 October 1970
Straker faces a terrible decision: attend to an alien defector or deliver life-saving medicine to his critically injured son.				
6	"E.S.P."	Ken Turner	Alan Fennell	21 October 1970
A man with ESP knowledge of SHADO is co-opted by the aliens.				
7	"Kill Straker!"	Alan Perry	Donald James	4 November 1970
Foster and his lunar module co-pilot, Captain Frank Craig, are brainwashed by aliens to kill Straker.				
8	"Sub-Smash"	David Lane	Alan Fennell	11 November 1970
Straker must face his claustrophobia when the Skydiver submarine is damaged and unable to surface.				
9	"Destruction"	Ken Turner	Dennis Spooner	2 December 1970
The aliens attack a Royal Navy destroyer that is dumping sealed containers of highly toxic nerve gas in the sea.				
10	"The Square Triangle"	David Lane	Alan Pattillo	9 December 1970
SHADO and an alien find themselves in the midst of a murderous romantic triangle.				
11	"Close Up"	Alan Perry	Tony Barwick	16 December 1970
SHADO obtains what may be the first photos of the alien home world.				
12	"The Psychobombs"	Jeremy Summers	Tony Barwick	30 December 1970
The aliens transform three humans into walking bombs.				
13	"Survival"	Alan Perry	Tony Barwick	6 January 1971
Foster is stranded on the Moon's surface, where he befriends a similarly stranded alien.				
14	"Mindbender"	Ken Turner	Tony Barwick	13 January 1971
An alien crystal causes Lieutenant Andy Conroy, Straker and other SHADO operatives to hallucinate.				
15	"Flight Path"	Ken Turner	Ian Scott Stewart	20 January 1971
A blackmailed SHADO operative opens the door for a possible alien attack on Moonbase.				
16	"The Man Who Came Back"	David Lane	Terence Feely	3 February 1971
A SHADO pilot believed dead suddenly turns up alive – much to a SHADO operative's suspicion.				
17	"The Dalotek Affair"	Alan Perry	Ruric Powell	10 February 1971
Communications problems at Moonbase are traced to a non-SHADO mining operation.				
18	"Timelash"	Cyril Frankel	Terence Feely	17 February 1971
A UFO freezes time at the studio for everyone but Straker, Colonel Lake and a mysterious enemy.				
19	"Ordeal"	Ken Turner	Tony Barwick	24 April 1971
SHADO races to rescue Foster after he is abducted from a medical facility.				
20	"Court Martial"	Ron Appleton	Tony Barwick	1 May 1971
Colonel Foster is tried and sentenced to death after a security leak is traced to him.				
21	"Computer Affair"	David Lane	Tony Barwick	15 May 1971
A SHADO investigation reveals that romance may be complicating Moonbase operations.				
22	"Confetti Check A-O.K."	David Lane	Tony Barwick	10 July 1971
A flashback episode focusing on SHADO's formation 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 show jumper is abducted by the aliens.				
24	"Reflections in the Water"	David Tomblin	David Tomblin	24 July 1971
Straker and Foster investigate an undersea alien base where SHADO and its personnel have been duplicated.				
25	"The Responsibility Seat"	Alan Perry	Tony Barwick	31 July 1971
Straker is attracted to a reporter who poses a possible security leak for SHADO.				
26	"The Long Sleep"	Cyril Frankel	David Tomblin	7 August 1971
A woman awakening from a decade-long coma sparks a hunt for an alien bomb.				



