

Afterword

How to Impersonate a UFO

First, I should make it clear that my Dad is still alive and indeed in very reasonable health for a man of his age. That said, he did write an autobiography a few years ago, interestingly entitled *To Stroke a Cheetah*, which was published soon afterwards, containing a great many of his flying anecdotes.

My father was a pilot for many years, both in the Armed Forces and civilian airlines. He did indeed perform the very manoeuvre that I describe in the story – although he assured me repeatedly that this was a prank, a practical joke, and it did indeed get into the newspapers.

So once again this is a “what if...” story – a speculation on my part with a different and more sinister outcome than in reality.

The military and political backgrounds I describe are of course my own invention, although based on history and my own memory as a boy. Of course, any errors introduced are my own, rather than Dad’s.