



MENACING The fighter jet

War jet panic on hols flight

FAMILIES were in fear as they flew home to Britain because their plane was apparently shadowed by a fighter jet for 15 minutes.

Bank worker Sarah Hatfield said her husband Ian was petrified.

She added: "The feeling on board was a mixture of excitement at seeing the fighter so close up and terror, as if we were about to get shot down."

The couple, of Quarry Bank, West Mids, were flying to Birmingham from Spain with their girl Emily, 13, who took photos of the French war plane.

Airline Jet2 has asked officials why its flight was seemingly tracked.

MONEYMOONERS

MATT Osborne-Bowring, 41, and bride Janine, 34, of Dinas, Powys, raised charity cash on their honeymoon by scaling eight mountains.

EXCLUSIVE

BY GERALDINE MCKELVIE

UNSEEN letters penned by Princess Diana today reveal how Mother Teresa changed her life forever.

A moving note and a prayer show how the saint and her nuns gave Diana a spiritual awakening and hope in her darkest hour.

The Princess of Wales visited the missionary's home and an orphanage in Calcutta in February 1992 – as her marriage to Prince Charles was fading.

She met some of the sick children Mother Teresa cared for.

SEARCHING

And on her return, Diana wrote the prayer and sent it to confidante butler Paul Burrell.

An accompanying note said: "Today, something very profound touched my life. I went to Mother Teresa's home and found the direction I've been searching for all these years.

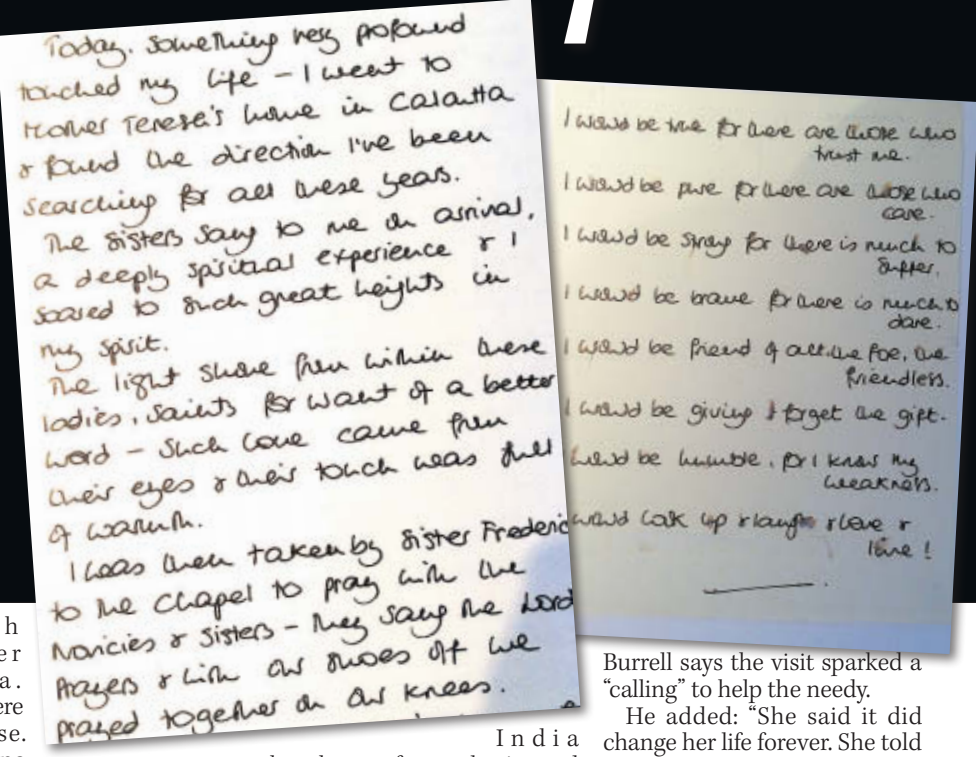
"The sisters sang to me, a deeply spiritual experience and I soared to such heights in my spirit. The light shone from within these ladies, saints for want of a better word – such love came from their eyes and their touch was full of warmth.

"I was then taken by Sister Federica to the chapel to pray with the novices and sisters.

"They sang the Lord's Prayers and with our shoes off we prayed together on our knees."

I've found my life's direction

Diana in her own words: How Mother Teresa led her to new calling



Mother Teresa was too ill to see Diana but they met up weeks later at her convent in Rome.

Burrell, 59, said: "Diana was very, very spiritual. Her experience of praying with the sisters and seeing sick and dying children set her on a new path.

"She now had a mission and she found a deep spirituality

with Mother Teresa. They were so close. There's no doubt that this was the inspiration for all of the princess's wonderful humanitarian work." It was during Diana's visit to

that she was famously pictured sitting alone at the Taj Mahal. She separated from Charles 10 months later. But while her personal life was in turmoil,

Burrell says the visit sparked a "calling" to help the needy.

He added: "She said it did change her life forever. She told me the nuns were angels sent to Earth to do God's work.

"She said she wasn't worthy to even walk in Mother Teresa's footsteps. Diana she could at



SAINT AND HER PUPIL Mother Teresa, Di and, left, the Royal's letters

least try to follow her example." Weeks before her death Burrell accompanied Diana, 36, on a trip to war-torn Bosnia.

He said: "We visited a shanty town in Sarajevo. We found a baby curled up on a mat. She picked it up and cuddled it. The baby opened his eyes and we could see he was blind. I

was witnessing something very special. I realised that teaching had come from Mother Teresa. The parallels were astounding. It was Mother Teresa's work flowing through the Princess."

Burrell also told how Mother Teresa, 87 – made a saint last year – gave Diana a treasured

set of rosary beads. And he revealed that when he saw Diana in hospital after she died in a Paris car crash on August 31, 1997 he wound the rosary beads between her fingers.

"They are still there to this day. I think that's very appropriate," he said.

Mother Teresa died just five

days later. Burrell, who tells of his battle to deal with Diana's passing on Channel 5 show In Therapy tomorrow, says the Princess spoke about death.

And he added: "Maybe she waited on Mother Teresa and they went off to Heaven together. I'd like to think so."

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OFFER William and Kate

Wills' invite for return to 1985 eaterie

THE boss of a restaurant where Charles and Diana ate with their young sons 32 years ago has invited Prince William to recreate the visit.

William was only three and brother Harry a baby when the family made a trip to the Venice eaterie in 1985.

The boys were a hit with staff and Diana saucily pinched a strawberry from a bowl as a waiter walked past. Now restaurateur Eligio Patties has written to William and wife Kate asking if they would like to pay their own visit to Ristorante Do Forni.

He has offered to sit them at the same table and provide the same menu as Charles and Diana had.

Eligio, whose restaurant sells Iranian caviar as a starter for £145 and has even hosted the Pope, said: "It would be an honour."

A royal spokesman said the couple were touched by the offer but currently had no plans to visit Italy.

Thriving town food bank bid

A PRIEST has made a planning application to extend a food bank at his church – despite being in a thriving market town.

Father Austin Gurr said "there's a definite need" for more room for food at St John the Baptist Catholic church in Andover, Hants.

Last year his food bank fed more than 5,000.

A food bank spokeswoman said: "This is an amazing number but there is a growing demand.

"We are now struggling in the very small space."

£30k loan to save hol girl

THE family of a 17-year-old girl who had a brain haemorrhage in Cyprus had to borrow £30,000 for an air ambulance.

Shanna Newby of Hipperholme, West Yorks, fell ill last week on holiday with boyfriend Joe Collett – and mum Karen Rawling said she was lucky to be alive. It is believed Shanna had no travel insurance.

Her family launched a JustGiving website appeal and received a loan. And £5,600 raised will go towards medical charges.

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