

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

FILE No

OLD AIR.	580	1	1
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Part No

21

NOTE: This cover is to be used only for official file series recorded with Australian Archives.
Form Number AR 111 is to be used for working papers.

SUBJECT:

REPORTS ON FLYING SAUCERS AND OTHER AERIAL OBJECTS.

Folio	Referred to	Date Referred	Actioned by (Initials)
	P.A. 73	10-8-84	✓

Folio	Referred to	Date Referred	Actioned by (Initials)

FILE No
OLD AIR
580
1
1
21
Part No

ARCHIVAL ACTION

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SUMMARY OF SIGHTINGS

No	PLACE DATE	PERSON	RECEIVED	REPLY	REMARKS
✓ 1	KIMBA SA 4 FEB 73	B. L. HUNT	6 MAR 73	2 MAY 73	FURTHER INFO REQUESTED IN FORM 2A. Reply received 14/5-73. UNKNOWN - POSSIBLE IONS FAILURE
✓ 2	EAST Kew VIC 15 FEB 73	ERNAINE GEORGE	6 MAR 73	13 MAR 73	POSSIBLE BOMBARD
✓ 3	COONAWARRA QLD 14 JAN 73	R. NICOL	13 MAR 73	13 APR 73	PRIVATE HEMISPHERE AND PAINS OF WATER HAZARDING MOONLIGHT
✓ 4	SURFERS PARADISE QLD 14 JAN 73	M ^{rs} I. G. ALLEN	13 MAR 73	20 MAR 73	PROBABLE HELICOPTER
✓ 5	CHARLESTOWN NSW 10 MAR 73	M ^{rs} I. COPAS BARRY COPAS	20 MAR 73	23 MAR 73	ERANTAS A/C (14/68) ANSWERED
✓ 6	LEONGATHA VIC 24 FEB 73	MR. R. J. SANDERS	23 MAR 73	26 MAR 73	SATURN OR CAPELLA
✓ 7	DONCASTER VIC 11 DEC 72	M ^{rs} M ^{rs} K. TYNER	11 DEC 72	13 APR 73	TWO NIGHT AIRCRAFT RESEMBLING SUNLIGHT
✓ 8	AMBERLEY QLD 17 MAR 73	J. V. STOREY	17 MAR 73	2 APR 73	PROBABLE METEORITE OR SPACE DEBRIS RE-ENTRY
✓ 9	NEWCASTLE NSW 13 MAR 73	T. V. M'OSKIER	3 APR 73	12 APR 73	PROBABLE MIRAGE AIRCRAFT
✓ 10	MEREWETHER NSW 15 MAR 73	K. KELLNER	3 APR 73	12 APR 73	METEORITE OR SPACE DEBRIS RE-ENTRY
✓ 11	BELMONT NSW 9 MAR 73	D. MCGILL	3 APR 73	14 MAY 73	MARSH GAS
✓ 12	SPRINGSBROOK QLD 9 APR 73	J. PILGRIM	17 APR 73	22 MAY 73	UNKNOWN (PROB KUGELBLITZ)
✓ 13	LOCKKEYS SA 10 APR 73	DR. LEESON	17 APR 73	30 APR 73	SPACE DEBRIS RE-ENTRY
✓ 14	DARWIN NT 4 APR 73	G. HOWELLS	26 APR 73	2 MAY 73	POWER LINE INSULATORS
✓ 15	ROCHEDALE QLD 7 APR 73	M ^{rs} BOBERMIEN	26 APR 73	30 APR 73	KUGENBLITZ
✓ 16	WYNNUM NT QLD 11 APR 73	M ^{rs} HANKINSON	26 APR 73	22 MAY 73	UNKNOWN KUGELBLITZ Possible civil F27

(AIR FORCE OFFICE)
MINUTE PAPER

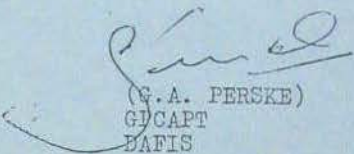
DEFAIR 580/1/1
Reference AF554/1/30 (34)

Subject: RECLASSIFICATION OF FILES

Reference: A. DI(AF)AAP 810 para 326.

In accordance with Reference A, all folios, in all parts of Department of Air File series 580/1/1 are reclassified 'UNCLASSIFIED' with effect 7 May 82.

7 May 82


(G.A. PERSKE)
GDCAPT
DAFIS

DO NOT REMOVE THIS SHEET FROM FILE

IF MORE PAPERS ARE TO BE ATTACHED
TO THE FILE

FILE CLOSED

FILE

FOR LATER PAPERS SEE
OR REFER TO SUBJECT INDEX

FILE
DATE 28/11/80

11 APR 73

SIGHTING # 16

WYNNUM NTH MRS A. HANKINSON
Q1D

DEPAR

FILE
5801/1 (17B)

DATE
25 MAY 73

REFERENCES
YOUR 5/9/AIR(12)
OF 17 APR 73

TO
HQAMB

ATTENTION

SUBJECT
REPORTS OF UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTINGS

Enclosed, for your records, is a copy of a letter from this Department to Mrs. A. Hankinson, in reply to her report of an unusual aerial sighting.

Enclosure: Copy of letter to Mrs. A. Hankinson.

SIGNATURE
M. Cretton

NAME
M. CRETTON

RANK
FLG OFF

APPOINTMENT
IR-2

PHONE NO
2408

580/1/1 Pt 21 (17a)

23 MAY 1973

Mrs A. Hankinson,
363 Wynnum North Road,
WYNNUM NORTH, QLD 4178

Dear Mrs Hankinson,

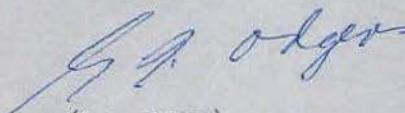
With reference to your report of an unusual aerial sighting on 11th April 1973, it is regretted that the investigating team has been unable to conclusively determine the cause.

Normally, logical explanations are available in answer to sighting reports, and theories investigated in relation to your report covered RAAF and Civil air movements, and movement of meteorological measurement devices. Unfortunately, none of these theories corresponded to the time period as stated in your report. A feasible explanation, which would only be relevant if there was an inaccuracy in the stated time of sighting, is that the sighting was of a 'Fokker Friendship' aircraft which departed Eagle Farm airport in a north easterly direction at 0205 hrs.

For your information, of the 653 sightings reported to the RAAF to date, approximately 93% have been explained, 6% have had insufficient detail provided for adequate investigation, and 1% are unexplained. Unless a time discrepancy is possible, your report must be categorized as unexplainable.

We thank you for your interest.

Yours faithfully,



(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

f
explain
DAH
23 May 73

Royal Australian Air Force A273 Feb 70 MEMO		For use within the RAAF only Write or print clearly	OUR FILE 5/9/AIN	FOLIO 12
FROM HRAMB			DATE 17 APR 73	REFERENCES (17)
TO DEDAIR			ATTENTION DAFI-IR	
SUBJECT UFO REPORTS				

FORWARDED ARE TWO UFO REPORTS.

ENCLOSURE: TWO UFO REPORTS — 15716



SIGNATURE <i>Paul T. Davison</i>	PRINTED NAME P. T. JAVISON	RANK FLG OFF	APPOINTMENT 158N INTEL C	PHONE EXT 2503
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REPORT ON UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

17

Part I - Report by Observer

(As a preliminary to completing this form, the observer is invited to describe the sighting in his or her own manner, using either separate sheets or the back of this form.)

- 1. Name of Observer... Mrs. A. HANKINSON ... Age ADULT
- 2. Address of Observer... 363 WYNNUM NORTH RD
WYNNUM NORTH ... Phone 965084
- 3. Occupation of Observer... Housewife
- 4. Date and time of start of observation... 11 APR 73 0130
How certain is the date?... Certain
How accurate is the time of start?... ± 5 mins
- 5. Duration of observation... 2 mins
How accurate is your estimate?... ± 30 secs
- 6. Observer's location at time of sighting...
Front room of house
How familiar is observer with this locality?...
5 years residence
- 7. Weather conditions at time of observation...
Clear night - not sure if moon or stars were visible
- 8. Describe any aids/equipment used in the observation...
Eyesight only
- 9. Where was object first observed:
(a) Relative to your surroundings... Out front of house approx 2 miles away
(b) angle of elevation... on horizon
(c) compass angle bearing... WNW
(d) how accurate are these estimates... ± 10°
- 10. What first attracted observer's attention?...
Unusual lights

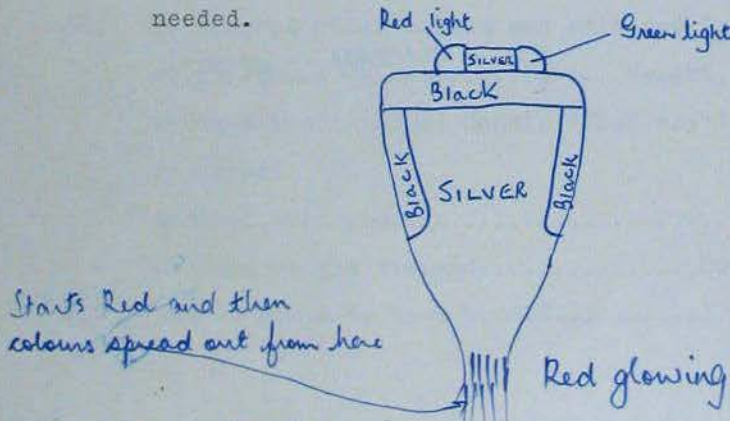
0205
shaded

685333
190

- 11. If there was more than one light/object:
 - (a) how many were there?.....
 - (b) in what formation were they?.....
- 12. What was the colour of the light or object? *Silver & black* ..
- 13. What was the brightness? (compare with full moon or common light source at a stated distance, e.g. ordinary street light at 100 yards). *Very intense light*
- 14. What was the apparent size at nearest approach:
 - (a) relative to ~~sun~~ or Moon. *Three times larger than moon*
 - (b) relative dimensions in inches at arm's length
(about 20 inches from the eyes).....
3" at arm's length
- 15. What were the bearing and elevation angles at nearest approach and how were these values assessed?.....
NNW on horizon - approximation
- 16. Was any method of propulsion obvious?..... *No*
- 17. Describe any sound heard, including changes in pitch and intensity..... *Nil*
- 18. What was the maximum and minimum angle of elevation (or height, if an estimate can be justified)?..... *horizon -> 35°*
- 19. What was the maximum and minimum angular velocity (or speed, if an estimate can be justified)? If necessary, compare with the movement of familiar objects at stated distances... *Very fast*
- 20. Give duration of any stationary phases. *momentarily*
- 21. Describe any deviations or manoeuvres. *straight line*
- 22. Describe any trail of exhaust, vapour or light seen.....
Shimmering trail of yellow, orange, green, purple red
- 23. Where was object last observed:

.../3

- (a) relative to your surroundings..... NW
- (b) angle of elevation..... 35°
- (c) compass angle bearing..... NW
- 24. What was the manner of its disappearance?..... Vanished
- 25. Do you know of any associated physical evidence (such as fragments, photographs, scorching, ground indentations, residual magnetism or radioactivity etc)..... No
- 26. State any training which enables observer to be reasonably certain of his/her ability to estimate angles and angular velocity..... Nil
- 27. How many witness to the sighting?..... None
- 28. Do you know of witnesses to similar sightings in the area?..... No
- 29. What natural phenomenon (or phenomena) would be nearest to explaining your observation?..... None known
- 30. What are your main reasons for excluding this explanation?.....
- 31. Please sketch the light/object with all details. If appropriate, sketch position and/or movement of object in relation to your surroundings. Use back of form, if needed.



Signature..... A. Hankinson

Date..... 12th April 1973

Part 2 - Unit Evaluation

32. The following military aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C type.....(1).....(2).....(3)
 Heading.....T.....T.....T
 Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000ft
 Speed.....K.....K.....K
 ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

NO MILITARY ACTIVITY

33. The following civil aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C type.....(1).....(2).....(3)
 Heading.....T.....T.....T
 Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000ft
 Speed.....K.....K.....K
 ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

NO RECORDED CIVIL ACTIVITY

* Give location of nearest ATD or ATA.

34. Observer's Location: Latitude 27° 27' S Longitude 153° 09E

35. Give bearing and elevation of any planets and major stars that were in that portion of the sky at that time. By day, give location of Venus only. JUPITER AND MARS WERE BOTH LOW IN EASTERN SKY

36. A meteorological balloon was released from NOT RELEASED
 at UNTIL 0300 LT Z Colour.....Weight.....gm
 Radio-sonde**/radar: Candle**/battery**(**delete as required)
 General wind profile.....
 Maximum height tracked.....,000 ft at.....Z
 Was it known to have burst?.....

...../5.

- 37. The first significant temperature inversion was of°C atft, measured at.....2 hrs from.....station.
- 38. Any remarks on satellites, rockets, research balloons, comets, meteorites etc. relevant to the sighting.....
LATEST SAT PRED NOT AVAILABLE
- 39. When an aircraft is a possible identification, include radar trace if available, and ascertain which of the aircraft lights were operating.....
- 40. The cause (or likely cause) of the sighting can*/cannot* be determined.
- 41. The object reported ~~probably was~~*/may have been* (delete as required)

I thought that the sighting was probably an aircraft departing Eagle Farm but DCA records do not support this. As the observer was looking over two refineries and an industrial area of Brisbane I consider that the rainbow effect of the 'exhaust' may have been caused by the refraction of light through the prevailing smoke haze.

.....1SQN.....(Unit).....P.T. DAVISON.....(Name)
13 APR 73.....(Date).....FLG OFF.....(Rank)

BRISBANE
QUEENSLAND

MORETON



CLIMBED AT 45°

DIRECTION OF FLOW

BRISBANE RIVER

RIVER

FISHERMAN ISLANDS

WHYTE ISLAND

LYTTON

WYNNHAM

HEMMAH

MURARRIS

08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17

08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17

REPORT ON UFO SIGHTING

AT WYNNUM NORTH, QLD ON 11TH APRIL 1973

1. An investigation into the reported sighting of an unidentified flying object was conducted by Flying Officer P.T. Davison, RAAF Base, Amberley.
2. Mrs Hankinson reported the sighting to 82 Wing Intel Section at 1500 on 11th April 1973. An interview was arranged for 1100 the following day. In the opinion of the investigating officer the observer, approximate age sixty years, appeared to be a sound, rational person, not subject to an exaggerated imagination.
3. The unusual yelping of her dog awakened Mrs Hankinson at approximately 0130 on 11th April 1973. As she moved through the house she observed a bright light shining through the sunroom window. The light appeared to be over the other side of the Brisbane River, bearing WNW approximately three miles away.
4. Mrs Hankinson described what she saw as a black and silver spinning top with red and green lights near the top and a 'fire coloured' exhaust. The object hovered momentarily before flying away to the north, climbing at an angle of forty five degrees.
5. The object reportedly left an exhaust trail similar to a rainbow but much more intense. This exhaust trail took some minutes to dissipate.
6. The path of the UFO would be consistent with that of an aircraft departing Eagle Farm airport but DCA had no flights at this time. There was a departure at 0330 but Mrs Hankinson is sure that her sighting was around 0130.
7. During the interview Mrs Hankinson stated that she had seen the object once before. One afternoon, approximately one month ago, she saw the UFO hovering in the same position as the latest sighting. It then flew away on a similar flight path. On this occasion the exhaust trail was evident for some hours after the departure of the UFO.

7 APR 78

SIGHTING # 15

ROCKEDALE MRS BOBERMIEN
OLD

580/1/1 P-21 (168)

DEPAIR (DATA)

1 MAY 73

HQAMB

156W INTEL

Your SK/AIR (12)
of 17 APR 73

REPORTS OF UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTINGS

Enclosed for your records is a copy of letter from this Department to Mrs Bobberman in answer to her report of an unusual aerial sighting.

ENCLOSURE: Copy of letter to Mrs Bobberman.

M. CRETTON
M CRETTON FLG OFF IR-2 2408

580/1/1 Ft21 (16A)

Mrs Bobbermien,
296 Miles Platting Road,
ROCHEDALE QLD 4123

Dear Mrs Bobbermien,

With reference to your report of an unusual aerial sighting on 7th April 1973, the investigating team has determined that the most probable cause of the sighting was a phenomenon known as 'Ball Lightning', or 'Kugelblitz'.

To explain the phenomenon, the following detail has been extracted from the Report on the Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects, carried out in the U.S.A. by Dr Edward Condon, for the U.S. Air Force:

'Among the most mysterious manifestations of atmospheric electricity is the phenomenon of ball lightning, or Kugelblitz. A glowing ball either (1) appears after a cloud to ground lightning flash and remains near the ground, or (2) is first seen in midair, descending from a cloud, or arising from no obvious cause, thereafter remaining aloft until it vanishes. Some 85% of observers agree that the size and brightness of the ball remains roughly constant throughout the period of sighting and that no changes occur, even immediately prior to its disappearance. A minority report brightening and colour changes. The colours red, orange and yellow are most common, but most other colours are seen occasionally. About 30% of observers detect internal motions or rotation of the ball itself, although this may depend on the distance from the ball of the observer. Several reports do indicate some guidance from telephone or power lines and by grounded objects.

The description given is closely identifiable to the American observers' descriptions, and no other 'normal' theory investigated by the team was feasible.

We trust that this explanation is satisfactory, and thank you for your interest.

Yours faithfully,

G. J. Odgers

(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

27 Apr 73

REPORT ON UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

16

Part I - Report by Observer

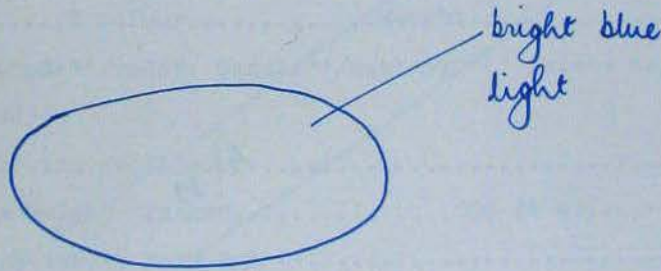
(As a preliminary to completing this form, the observer is invited to describe the sighting in his or her own manner, using either separate sheets or the back of this form.)

1. Name of Observer... Mrs BOBBERMIEN Age ADULT
2. Address of Observer... 296 MILES PLATTING RD
ROCHEDALE Phone 405926
3. Occupation of Observer... HOUSEWIFE
4. Date and time of start of observation... 7th April 1973 0330
How certain is the date?..... 100%
How accurate if the time of start?..... \pm 30 mins
5. Duration of observation..... Approx 3 mins
How accurate is your estimate?..... \pm 1 min
6. Observer's location at time of sighting... In bedroom at
front of house.....
How familiar is observer with this locality?.....
Extremely familiar - 18 years residence
7. Weather conditions at time of observation... stars visible
light moonlight night - no storms in area
8. Describe any aids/equipment used in the observation.....
eyesight only
9. Where was object first observed:
(a) Relative to your surroundings..... NE
(b) angle of elevation..... $15^{\circ} \pm 5^{\circ}$
(c) compass angle bearing..... NE $\pm 10^{\circ}$
(d) how accurate are these estimates.....
10. What first attracted observer's attention?.....
Dog's unusual bark & clicking noise

- 11. If there was more than one light/object:
 - (a) how many were there?.....
 - (b) in what formation were they?.....
- 12. What was the colour of the light or ~~object~~? *Blue at centre - yellow? or it dispersed*
- 13. What was the brightness? (compare with full moon or common light source at a stated distance, e.g. ordinary street light at 100 yards). *Very strong - observer had to look away.*
- 14. What was the apparent size at nearest approach:
 - (a) relative to Venus or Moon... *much larger*
 - (b) relative dimensions in inches at arm's length (about 20 inches from the eyes). *approx. 2 ft x 1 ft at arm's length.*
- 15. What were the bearing and elevation angles at nearest approach and how were these values assessed? *090°*
10-15° approximation
- 16. Was any method of propulsion obvious? *No*
- 17. Describe any sound heard, including changes in pitch and intensity... *series of double clicks*
- 18. What was the maximum and minimum angle of elevation (or height, if an estimate can be justified)? *little change*
- 19. What was the maximum and minimum angular velocity (or speed, if an estimate can be justified)? If necessary, compare with the movement of familiar objects at stated distances... *approx. 5-10 mph*
- 20. Give duration of any stationary phases. *continuous movement*
- 21. Describe any deviations or manoeuvres... *steady flight*
- 22. Describe any trail of exhaust, vapour or light seen...
No trail of exhaust - bright blue light
- 23. Where was object last observed:

.../3

- (a) relative to your surroundings. *Outside bedroom window*
- (b) angle of elevation..... *10°*
- (c) compass angle bearing..... *90°*
- 24. What was the manner of its disappearance? *over hill*
- 25. Do you know of any associated physical evidence (such as fragments, photographs, scorching, ground indentations, residual magnetism or radioactivity etc)..... *No*
- 26. State any training which enables observer to be reasonably certain of his/her ability to estimate angles and angular velocity..... *None*
- 27. How many witness to the sighting?..... *No*
- 28. Do you know of witnesses to similar sightings in the area?..... *No*
- 29. What natural phenomenon (or phenomena) would be nearest to explaining your observation?..... *No known phenomenon*
- 30. What are your main reasons for excluding this explanation?
- 31. Please sketch the light/object with all details. If appropriate, sketch position and/or movement of object in relation to your surroundings. Use back of form, if needed.



Signature. *E. Bohrmann* Date. *12th April 1973*

Part 2 - Unit Evaluation

32. The following military aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C type.....(1).....(2).....(3)
 Heading.....T.....T.....T
 Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000ft
 Speed.....K.....K.....K
 ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

33. The following civil aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C type.....(1).....(2).....(3)
 Heading.....T.....T.....T
 Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000ft
 Speed.....K.....K.....K
 ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

* Give location of nearest ATD or ATA.

34. Observer's Location: Latitude 27°34½S Longitude 153°06E

35. Give bearing and elevation of any planets and major stars that were in that portion of the sky at that time.
 By day, give location of Venus only. JUPITER & MARS
LOW IN EASTERN SKY

36. A meteorological ballon was released from.....
 at.....Z Colour.....Weight.....gm
 Radio-sonde**/radar: Candle**/battery**(**delete as required)
 General wind profile N/A
 Maximum height tracked.....,000 ft at.....Z
 Was it known to have burst?.....

...../5.

- 37. The first significant temperature inversion was of°C atft, measured at.....Z hrs from.....station.
- 38. Any remarks on satellites, rockets, research balloons, comets, meteorites etc. relevant to the sighting. **LATEST. SATELLITE BULLETIN NOT AVAILABLE. r**
- 39. When an aircraft is a possible identification, include radar trace if available, and ascertain which of the aircraft lights were operating.....
- 40. The cause (or likely cause) of the sighting can*/cannot* be determined.
- 41. The object reported probably ~~was~~*/may have been* (delete as required)

Probably some form of electricity on power lines that ~~are~~ are located in the area where Mrs BOBBERMEN was looking.

1 SQN INTEL (Unit) *P. T. DAVISON* (Name)

13 APR 73 (Date) *FLG OFF* (Rank)

1:63,360

BEENLEIGH QUEENSLAND



RESTRICTED

REPORT ON UFO SIGHTING
AT ROCHEDALE QLD ON 7TH APRIL 1973

1. An investigation into the reported sighting was conducted by Flying Officer P.T. Davison, RAAF Base, Amberley.
2. Mrs Bobbermien reported the sighting to 82 Wing Intel Section on 11th April 1973. An interview was arranged for 0930 the following day. In the opinion of the investigating officer Mrs Bobbermien was a sound, rational person, not subject to an exaggerated imagination.
3. On the morning of 7th April 1973 she was awakened by the unusual yelping of her dog and a sound described as a "click click" sound. The time was approximately 0330. The noise was similar to the on/off switching of electric power. She observed a light shining into her bedroom and went to the window to investigate. She saw a blue, oval shaped light near the road at the front of the house. The light illuminated the surrounding area.
4. The light was observed to move slowly along the road in an ESE direction, accompanied by the clicking sound. The observed light slowly disappeared over the top of the slight hill approximately 200 metres E of Mrs Bobbermien's location.
5. In the investigating officer's opinion the light could have been some form of electricity moving along the power lines adjacent to the road. The orientation of the power lines would be consistent to the reported path of the light. A search was made for any transformers in the immediate area but to no avail. Heavy duty power lines, part of the SEA grid system, are located approximately 1000 metres west of Mrs Bobbermien's house.

4 APR 78

SIGHTING # 14

DARWIN
N.T.

MR. G. HOWELLS

5801.1. P-21(15B)

DEPAR (DAFI)

2 MAY 73

HOBIR

FIO

Your 5/4/18 (52)
of 13 APR 73

REPORTS OF UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTINGS

Enclosed for your records is a copy of a letter from this Department to Mr. C. Howells in reply to report of an unusual aerial sighting.

ENCLOSURE: Copy of a letter to Mr. C. Howells.

M. Cullen

M. CRETTON FLEET IR-2 2401

580/1/1 Pt21 (15A)

2 MAY 1973

Mr G. Howells,
7 Parsons Street,
Fannie Bay,
DARWIN, NT 5700

Dear Sir,

With reference to your report of an unusual aerial sighting on 4th April 1973, it has been determined that the most probable cause of the sighting was reflection from telephone/power line insulators.

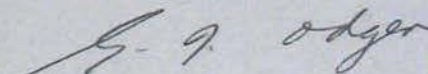
The reasons for this determination are:

- a. the object was always to the left and forward of the car;
- b. the object could not be seen when the lights of the vehicle failed; and,
- c. it is known from reliable people that insulators along the Stuart Highway give intense green and red reflections from vehicle's headlights.

Although in the investigating officer's report it was stated that no apparent fault was evident in the electrical wiring of the motor vehicle, the particular model vehicle is fitted with a circuit breaker in the headlight wiring system. This circuit breaker protects the electrical system automatically in the event of electrical overload or short circuit. When the circuit breaker actuates, the circuit is opened and lights extinguish until sufficient cooling occurs for the circuit breaker to reset and again close the circuit. This circuit breaker actuation would be responsible for the 'clicking' noises heard.

We trust that this explanation is satisfactory and thank you for your interest.

Yours faithfully,



(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

Handwritten note:
19/5/73
D.H.
1 May 73

RESTRICTED



RESTRICTED

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

TELEPHONE: DARWIN 89 9911



Headquarters
RAAF Base
DARWIN NT 5793 8-3-73

IN REPLY QUOTE 5/4/Air (32)

13th April 1973

Department of Air (Attention: DAFI) ✓

DAFI

For Information

Headquarters Operational Command

INVESTIGATION OF UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

Enclosed is a report of an unusual sighting in the Northern Territory on the night of 3rd April 1973.

L.E. Stapleton
(L.E. STAPLETON)
Squadron Leader
For Officer T/Commanding

Enclosure: Part I and II Sighting Report (5 pages)



RESTRICTED
RESTRICTED

REPORT ON UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

Part I - Report by Observer

(As a preliminary to completing this form, the observer is invited to describe the sighting in his or her own manner, using either separate sheets or the back of this form.)

1. Name of observer... **MR G. HOWELLS**Age... **26**
2. Address of observer... **7. PARSONS STREET. FANNIE BAY. DARWIN. NT. 5700**
.....Phone. **818317**.....
3. Occupation of observer... **PAINTER**
4. Date and time of start of observation... **4TH APRIL 1973 APPROX 1.30 TO**
How certain is the date?... **DEFINITE** **2.30 AM**
How accurate is the time of start... **ESTIMATED**
5. Duration of observation... **35 MINUTES**
- How accurate is your estimate? **ESTIMATE, BUT SEEMED QUITE LONG.**
6. Observer's location at time of sighting... **ABOUT 110 MILES SOUTH OF**
DARWIN ON STUART HIGHWAY HEADING TOWARDS DARWIN
.....
How familiar is observer with this locality? **TRAVELLED THROUGH**
THIS AREA ABOUT 12 TIMES
7. Weather conditions at time of observation... **CLEAR. NO RAIN. PLENTY OF**
STARS - NO MOON.
8. Describe any aids/equipment used in the observation
NIL USED
9. Where was object first observed:
(a) Relative to your surroundings... **LEFT OF CAR - SEVERAL MILES**
.....
(b) angle of elevation... **APPROX 30 DEGREES - CLOSE TO HILLS**
(c) compass angle bearing... **ABOUT SOUTH-WEST**
(d) how accurate are these estimates... **GOOD.**
10. What first attracted observer's attention? **BLINKING LIGHT WITH**
DIFFERENT COLOURS
11. If there was more than one light/object:
(a) how many were there? **ONE ONLY NOTICED**
(b) in what formation were they?

12. What was the colour of the light or object?..... **RANGING BLUE/YELLOW/GREEN**
13. What was the brightness? (compare with full moon or common light source at a stated distance, e.g. ordinary street light at 100 yards)..... **VERY BRIGHT**
14. What was the apparent size at nearest approach:
(a) relative to Venus or Moon..... **MUCH BIGGER THAN VENUS - NOT AS LARGE AS THE MOON.**
(b) relative dimensions in inches at arm's length (about 20 inches from the eyes)..... **(PERHAPS) SEVEN INCHES**
15. What were the bearing and elevation angles at nearest approach and how were these values assessed?..... **LEFT SIDE OF CAR (CAR HEADING TOWARDS DARWIN) UP TO A MILE AWAY, ALMOST GROUND LEVEL**
16. Was any method of propulsion obvious?.. **NO.**
17. Describe any sound heard, including changes in pitch and intensity
..... **CLICKING SOUND AS LIGHTS ON CAR WERE SWITCHED ON AND OFF - BY THE UFO**
18. What was the maximum and minimum angle of elevation (or height, if an estimate can be justified)?..... **GENERALLY, SAME LEVEL**
19. What was the maximum and minimum angular velocity (or speed, if an estimate can be justified)? If necessary, compare with the movement of familiar objects at stated distances..... **KEPT UP WITH CAR - 65 MPH TO 5 MPH**
20. Give duration of any stationary phases, .. **ALMOST ONE MINUTE- ABOUT SIX TIMES.**
21. Describe any deviations or manoeuvres..... **NIL**
22. Describe any trail of exhaust, vapour or light seen..... **NIL VAPOUR**
..... **WHOLE OBJECT GLOWED**
23. Where was object last observed:
(a) relative to your surroundings..... **SEEMED TO DISAPPEAR ABOVE**
(b) angle of elevation..... **-**
(c) compass angle bearing..... **-**
24. What was the manner of its disappearance?.. **GLOW DISSIPATED**
25. Do you know of any associated physical evidence (such as fragments, photographs, scorching, ground indentations, residual magnetism or radioactivity etc) .. **CAR LIGHTS WERE TURNED 'OFF' AND 'ON' DURING ENCOUNTER... LIGHTS WERE OK AT CORNERS BUT TURNED OFF FREQUENTLY ON STRAIGHT STRETCHES. LIGHTS NOT CONTROLLED BY DRIVER.**

26. State any training which enables observer to be reasonably certain of his/her ability to estimate angles and angular velocity. **NIL**
27. How many witness to the sighting?....**NIL**.....
28. Do you know of witnesses to similar sightings in the area?....**NO**.....
29. What natural phenomenon (or phenomena) would be nearest to explaining your observation?.....**NONE**.....
30. What are your main reasons for excluding this explanation?.....
NEVER ENCOUNTERED ANYTHING SIMILAR.....
31. Please sketch the light/object with all details. If appropriate, sketch position and/or movement of object in relation to your surroundings. Use back of form, if needed.

Signature... *T. Howell* Date... *4 - 4 - 73*

Part 2 - Unit Evaluation

32. The following military aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C type... **NIL**(1).....(2).....(3)

HeadingT.....T.....T

Height ,000 ft..... ,000 ft..... ,000 ft

Speed.....K.....K.....K

ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

33. The following civil aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C..... **NIL**(1).....(2).....(3)

Heading.....T.....T.....T

Height..... ,000 ft..... ,000 ft..... ,000 ft

Speed.....K.....K.....K

ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

* Give location of nearest ATD or ATA.

34. **AREA OF** Observer's location: Latitude **13-35S** Longitude **131.25E**

35. Give bearing and elevation of any planets and major stars that were in that portion of the sky at that time. By day, give location of Venus only..... **NIL AT THIS TIME**

36. A meteorological balloon was released from... **DARWIN AIRPORT** ... at... **03 1130Z** ...Z Colour..... Weight..... gm

Radio-sonde**/radar** : Candle**/battery** (**delete as required)

General wind profile.... **NORTH WEST**

Maximum ^{**DIST**} height tracked... **21.79 KM** ... ,000 ft at.....Z

Was it known to have burst?..... **YES**

37. The first significant temperature inversion was of..... °C atft, measured at.....Z hrs from..... Station.

38. Any remarks on satellites, rockets, research balloons, comets, meteorites etc. relevant to the sighting. .. **NO KNOWN ONES AT THIS TIME**

- 39. When an aircraft is a possible identification, include radar trace if available, and ascertain which of the aircraft lights were operating.....
- 40. The cause (or likely cause) of the sighting can*~~not~~ be determined.
- 41. The object reported ~~XXXXXX~~*/may have been* (delete as required)

REFLECTIONS FROM TELEPHONE/POWER LINE INSULATORS

1. MR HOWELLS HAD DEPARTED BAMYILI, A STATION ABOUT 50 MILES SOUTH OF KATHERINE (219 ROAD MILES SOUTH OF DARWIN), AT APPROX 9 PM OF THE NIGHT OF 3/4 APRIL 1973. HE STOPPED FOR A SHORT WHILE AT KATHERINE AND THEN DROVE TO DARWIN. HE WAS DRIVING A 1961 FB HOLDEN STATION SEDAN. AFTER INTERVIEWING MR HOWELLS THE REASONS FOR THE STATEMENT IN PARA 41 ARE:

- A. THE OBJECT WAS ALWAYS TO THE LEFT AND SLIGHTLY FORWARD OF THE CAR.
- B. THE OBJECT COULD NOT REALLY BE SEEN WHEN THE LIGHTS OF THE VEHICLE FAILED.
- C. HIS REASON FOR SLOWING DOWN WAS BECAUSE OF THE LIGHTS FAILING AND NOT BECAUSE OF THE OBJECT.
- D. TWO OTHER RELIABLE PEOPLE HAVE STATED THAT INSULATORS ALONG THIS ROAD THROW OUT GREEN AND RED REFLECTIONS FROM VEHICLE HEADLIGHTS.

2. THE TIME IS APPROXIMATELY ONLY AS MR HOWELLS DID NOT HAVE A WATCH. THE PLACE IS IDENTIFIED ONLY BY NOTING THE 110 MILE PEG SOMETIME DURING OBSERVATION OF THE OBJECT.

3. MR HOWELLS STOPPED THE FIRST VEHICLE HE MET COMING FROM DARWIN. UNTIL THIS TIME HE HAD THE OBJECT UNDER OBSERVATION. THE DRIVER OF THE OTHER VEHICLE HAD NOT NOTED ANYTHING UNUSUAL. MR HOWELLS COMPLETED THE JOURNEY TO DARWIN WITHOUT FURTHER SIGHTING THE OBJECT.

4. MR HOWELLS IS A SORER TYPE OF PERSON BUT DOES BELIEVE IN UFO'S SO MAY LET HIS IMAGINATION TAKE OVER AT TIMES.

5. THERE WAS NO APPARENT FAULT IN THE ELECTRICAL WIRING OF THE VEHICLE.

HEADQUARTERS DARWIN

(Unit) *H. Steadman* (Name)

10TH APRIL 1973

(Date) SQUADRON LEADER (Rank)

10 APR 78

SIGHTING # 13

LOCKLEYS
S.A.

DR. LEESON

580/11 P-21(14B)

DEPAR (AAFI)

1 MAY 73

HOEDN

F10

Your 6/13/AIR(5)
of 11 April 73

REPORTS OF UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTINGS

Enclosed for your records is a copy of
a letter ~~to~~ from this Department to
Dr. C.A. Heesen in answer to his report
of an unusual aerial sighting.

ENCLOSURE: Copy of letter to Dr. C.A. Heesen

M. C. Miller M. CRETTON FICOFF IR-2 2408

580/1/1 Pt21 (14A)

30 APR 1973

Dr C.A. Leeson,
3 Miranda Avenue,
LOCKLEYS SA 5032

Dear Sir,

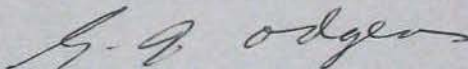
With reference to your report of an unusual aerial sighting on 10th April 1973, it has been determined that the most probable cause was space debris re-entering Earth's atmosphere.

Presently there are 2902 man made objects in space, and debris periodically burns up on re-entry to atmosphere.

From the description provided, the duration of sighting and the incandescent trail supports the theory of re-entry. The 'tandem' formation described probably resulted from the breaking up of the decaying satellite component.

We trust that this determination satisfactorily explains the phenomenon that you saw, and we thank you for your interest.

Yours faithfully,



(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

*Ad
27 Apr 73*



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

14
DEPT. OF AIR
580-1-1
DAFI 8-3-73

Adelaide 55 7000

Headquarters
RAAF Base
EDINBURGH SA 5111

6/13/Air(5)

11th April 1973

Department of Air (Attention: D/DAFI (IR))

D/DAFI
For Information:

Headquarters Operational Command (Attention: CIO)

UNUSUAL AERIAL PHENOMENA

1. Enclosed is a report on an unusual aerial sighting on 10th April 1973.

(B.G. KING)
Flight Lieutenant
for Officer Commanding

✓ Enclosure: A. 1 report

RECEIVED
17 APR 1973
DAFI

INTELLIGENCE - REPORT OF AERIAL OBJECT OBSERVED

PART 1 - REPORT BY OBSERVER

1. Name of observer... DR. LEESON C.A.... Age... 53.....
2. Address of observer... 3 MARIANNA AVE. LONDON
SA 5032..... Phone... 2 93177.....
3. Occupation of observer... COMMONWEALTH MED. OFFICER 517400 work
4. Date and time of observation... 0835 EST 10 APR 73, OUTER HARBOR
5. Duration of observation... 1 MINUTE (at least $\frac{1}{2}$ minute)
6. Observers location at time of sighting... WALLACE DRIVE
PILOT SAID.....
7. Weather conditions at time of observation... CALM, CLEAR,
NEAT.....
8. Describe any aids or equipment used in the observation.....
N/A.....
9. Where was object first observed? (eg, overhead, coming from
behind a hill, over the horizon)... DUE NORTH
NOT FAR ABOVE HORIZON (10°-15°) (2 OBJECTS).....
10. What first attracted observer's attention? (eg, light or
noise)... LIGHTS NO NOISE HEARD.....

11. Did object appear as a light or as a definite object ?
..... LIGHT (SEE SIGHT NOT GOOD AT DIST.)
..... INCANDESCENT TRAILS
12. If there was more than one object :-
(a) how many were there ?..... 2
(b) in what formation were they ?..... TWO COM
13. What was the colour of the light or object ?..... YELLOW LIGHT
14. What was its apparent shape ?..... POINT OF LIGHT
15. Was any detail of structure observable ?..... NO
16. Was any method of propulsion obvious ?..... INCANDESCENT TRAILS
17. Was there any sound ?..... NO
18. What was its height ? (or angle of elevation)..... 10°-15° ABOVE HORIZON
19. What was its speed ? (or angular velocity)..... VERY FAST HORIZONTALLY
20. Was the object stationary ?..... NO
21. What was the direction of flight with reference to landmarks or points of the compass ?
..... W - E
22. Did the object remain on a straight path, deviate, or manoeuvre at all ?
..... STRAIGHT
23. Was any trail of exhaust, vapour, or light seen ?.....
..... INCANDESCENT TRAILS
24. Where did object disappear ? (eg in mid-air, behind a hill, over the horizon ?
..... OVER HORIZON

25. Do you know of any physical evidence ? (such as fragments, photographs, or other supporting evidence)

NO

26. Have you observed any unusual phenomena previously ?

NO

27. If so, give brief details of incident(s).....

28. State any experience which enables observer to be reasonably certain about the answers given to 18 and 19.

SMALL BOAT SALVAGE

29. Are you a member of any organization interested in aerial phenomena ?

NO.

30. Name and address of organization.....

31. Any additional information which relates to the sighting.

3 OTHER WITNESSES (MR. COWEN - CUSTOMS DEPT) COXWAIN OF "WALLACE BRUCE"
1 OTHER CUSTOMS MAN

John Dill
Interviewer.

Part 2 - Unit Evaluation

32. The following military aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C type	.....(1)	.....(2)	.....(3)
Heading	.....T	.....T	.....T
Height	.....000ft	.....000ft	.....000ft
Speed	.....K	.....K	.....K
ATD/ATA*	.....hrs	.....hrs	.....hrs

33. The following civil aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C type	.....(1)	.....(2)	.....(3)
Heading	.....T	.....T	.....T
Height	.....000ft	.....000ft	.....000ft
Speed	.....K	.....K	.....K
ATD/ATA*	.....hrs	.....hrs	.....hrs

*Give location of nearest ATD or ATA.

34. Observer's Location: Latitude 34.45°.....Longitude 118.30° ..

35. Give bearing and elevation of any planets and major stars that were in that portion of the sky at that time. By day, give location of Venus only N/A

36. A meteorological balloon was released from None

at	Z colour	Weight	gm
----	----------	--------	----

Radio-sonde **/radar ** Candle **/battery (** delete as required)

General wind profile N/A

Minimum height tracked N/A.....000 ft at

Was it known to have burst? N/A

37. The first significant temperature inversion was of

N/A.....°C at ft, measured at

.....Z hrs from station.

38. Any remarks on satellites, rockets, research balloons, comets, meteorites etc relevant to the sighting See Remarks Below

39. When an aircraft is a possible identification, include radar trace if available, and ascertain which of the aircraft lights were operating N/A

40. The cause (or likely cause) of the sighting can*~~/cannot~~* be determined.

41. The object reported probably was*~~/may have been~~* (delete as required)

....~~decaying satellite-associated space object~~.....

Remarks

1. Dr LEESON reported the sighting in the first instance to the Duty Air Traffic Controller out of hours, and OIC UFO Investigation followed up the sighting report later in the day.

2. I queried Dr LEESON's estimate of one minute duration of observation, in view of the angle of elevation and the apparent speed of the objects. He was prepared to re-estimate the duration as a half-minute.

3. There is no authority in this State which studies meteorite activity on a day-to-day basis; WRE Space Research Group and the University of Adelaide's Satellite Tracking Group devote their attention to satellite tracking, while the meteorological observatory is completely weather-oriented. The Astronomical Society of South Australia was also not very helpful in this particular instance.

4. WRE Space Research Group, which derives its information from Goddard Space Centre USA, provided information on several primary and secondary satellite-associated objects which could have re-entered in this time-phase. Unfortunately, the result of such predictions will not be known for some time, when Goddard issues its bimonthly report. However, the description provided by Dr LEESON lends itself to re-entry of a space object; the "tandem" formation he describes could be as a result of break-up in the atmosphere of the decaying satellite component. This theory is also consistent with the duration of observation and the incandescent trail he mentions.

Headquarters Unit
RAAF Base
EDINBURGH SA 5111 Date
11 APR 73


B.G. KING
Flt Lt
OIC UFO Investigation

9 APR 73

SIGHTING # 121

SPRINGBROOK
QLD

J. PILGRIM

FROM DEPAIR	FILE 580/11/P 21(135)	DATE 20 JUN 73	REFERENCES HQAMB 5/9/AIR(7) OF 11 APR 73
TO HQAMB		ATTENTION W/O	
SUBJECT REPORT OF UNUSUAL AERIAL SPLITTING			

Enclosed, for your records is a copy of a letter from this Department to Mr J. Pilgrim in reply to report of an unusual aerial splitting.

ENCLOSURE Copy of letter to Mr J Pilgrim.

SIGNATURE M. Creighton	NAME M CREIGHTON	RANK FLIGHT	APPOINTMENT 12-2	PHONE NO 2405
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21 JUN 1973

580/1/1 Pt 21 (13a)

Mr J. Pilgrim,
Springbrook Road,
SPRINGBROOK, QLD

Dear Sir,

With reference to your report of an unusual sighting of a light on 9th April 1973, we regret that the investigating team has been unable to conclusively determine the cause.

A possible theoretical cause is a sighting of a phenomenon known as 'Ball Lightning', or 'Kugelblitz'. To explain this phenomenon, the following detail has been extracted from the Report on the Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects, carried out in the U.S.A. by Dr Edward Condon, for the U.S. Air Force:

'Among the most mysterious manifestations of atmospheric electricity is the phenomenon of ball lightning, or Kugelblitz. A glowing ball either (1) appears after a cloud to ground lightning flash and remains near the ground, or (2) is first seen in midair, descending from a cloud, or arising from no obvious cause, thereafter remaining aloft until it vanishes. Some 85% of observers agree that the size and brightness of the ball remains roughly constant throughout the period of sighting and that no changes occur, even immediately prior to its disappearance. A minority report brightening and colour changes. The colours red, orange and yellow are most common, but most other colours are seen occasionally. About 30% of observers detect internal motions or rotation of the ball itself, although this may depend on the distance of the observer. Several reports do indicate some guidance from telephone or power lines and by grounded objects.'

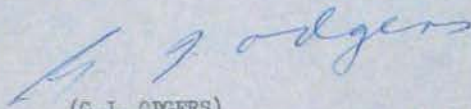
For your information, of the 653 unusual aerial sightings reported to the RAAF to date, approximately 93% have been logically

/explained

... and, 6% have had insufficient detail provided to enable
determination of the causes, and 1% are unexplainable.

Your report unfortunately must be categorized as
unexplainable at this stage, and we thank you for your interest.

Yours faithfully,



(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

H
Spence
DAS
20 Jan 73

OUR FILE
11 APR 73

FOLIO
12/3

FROM
H. AMB

DATE
5/9/73

REFERENCE

TO
DAFI DEPAIR

ATTENTION
DAFI-12

DEPT. OF AIR FORCE
DAFI
580-1-1
8-3-73

SUBJECT
UFO REPORT

1. Forwarded is one copy of a UFO report by Mr and Mrs J. PALERIM of Springbrook Road, SPRINGBROOK, QLD.
2. Attached to the report is a map of the area, and 82 wing report.

Enclosure : 1. UFO REPORT

18/4
2000-2000



Contact - Mr ANEADIE Div of Entomology CSIRO 487722

SIGNATURE <i>R. M. Beaream</i>	PRINTED NAME R. M. Beaream	RANK Sqn Ldr	APPOINTMENT W/O.	PHONE EXT 2023
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RESTRICTED

REPORT ON UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

Part I - Report by Observer

(As a preliminary to completing this form, the observer is invited to describe the sighting in his or her own manner, using either separate sheets or the back of this form.)

1. Name of Observer MR & MRS. J. PILGRIM Age 40
2. Address of Observer SPRINGBROOK RD
SPRINGBROOK Phone 335123
3. Occupation of Observer FARMER
4. Date and time of start of observation 3:30 AM 9TH APRIL
How certain is the date? CERTAIN
How accurate is the time of start? WITHIN 15 MINS
5. Duration of observation 10-15 MINS
How accurate is your estimate?
6. Observer's location at time of sighting Windows of house at location on map
How familiar is observer with this locality? 2 years residence
7. Weather conditions at time of observation Clear except a bit of broken cloud on top of ridge
8. Describe any aids/equipment used in the observation Eyes
9. Where was object first observed:
 - (a) Relative to your surroundings On rear side of ridge
 - (b) angle of elevation 10-15° ± 5°
 - (c) compass angle bearing SW ± 10°
 - (d) how accurate are these estimates ↑
10. What first attracted observer's attention? The light

RESTRICTED

- 11. If there was more than one light/object:
 - (a) how many were there?..... *Only one*.....
 - (b) in what formation were they?.....
- 12. What was the colour of the light or object? *ORANGE/WHITE*...
- 13. What was the brightness? (compare with full moon or common light source at a stated distance, e.g. ordinary street light at 100 yards) *LIKE FLUORESCENT LIGHT*.....
- 14. What was the apparent size at nearest approach:
 - (a) relative to Venus or Moon.....
 - (b) relative dimensions in inches at arm's length (about 20 inches from the eyes) *like a tennis ball, but not as big as a full moon*.....
- 15. What were the bearing and elevation angles at nearest approach and how were these values assessed? *Approx. from directions at site, with use of map*.....
- 16. Was any method of propulsion obvious? *No*.....
- 17. Describe any sound heard, including changes in pitch and intensity..... *No*.....
- 18. What was the maximum and minimum angle of elevation (or height, if an estimate can be justified)? *10°-20°*.....
- 19. What was the maximum and minimum angular velocity (or speed, if an estimate can be justified)? If necessary, compare with the movement of familiar objects at stated distances..... *5-10 mph*.....
- 20. Give duration of any stationary phases..... *UP TO 1 MIN.*.....
- 21. Describe any deviations or manoeuvres..... *about 36" at arm's length*.....
- 22. Describe any trail of exhaust, vapour or light seen..... *One a shower of particles shot out towards right after light was stationary*.....
- 23. Where was object last observed: *Same place -*.....

- (a) relative to your surroundings... *Light appeared*
- (b) angle of elevation... *to be shut off*
- (c) compass angle bearing... *suddenly*
- 24. What was the manner of its disappearance?.....
- 25. Do you know of any associated physical evidence (such as fragments, photographs, scorching, ground indentations, residual magnetism or radioactivity etc) *Grand on ridge was studied - no sign of anything unusual.*
- 26. State any training which enables observer to be reasonably certain of his/her ability to estimate angles and angular velocity... *None*
- 27. How many witness to the sighting?... *2 people*
- 28. Do you know of witnesses to similar sightings in the area? *3 others in January - see written report*
- 29. What natural phenomenon (or phenomena) would be nearest to explaining your observation?..... *-*
- 30. What are your main reasons for excluding this explanation?
.....
- 31. Please sketch the light/object with all details. If appropriate, sketch position and/or movement of object in relation to your surroundings. Use back of form, if needed.

Just a road ball.

Signature *P. J. Quinn*

Date *10th April 73*

Part 2 - Unit Evaluation

32. The following military aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C type.....(1).....(2).....(3)
Heading.....NIL.....T.....T.....T
Height.....,000 ft.....,000 Ft.....,000ft
Speed.....K.....K.....K
ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

33. The following civil aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C type *Light Twin engine* SY-BN (1).....(2).....(3)
Heading.....North.....T.....T.....T
Height.....7000'.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000 ft
Speed.....215 K.....K.....K.....K
ATD/ATA* *at Goolangatta 1753Z*.....hrs.....hrs
landed Brisbane 1807Z
* Give location of nearest ATD or ATA.

34. Observer's Location: Latitude.....Longitude.....

35. Give bearing and elevation of any planets and major stars that were in that portion of the sky at that time.

By day, give location of Venus only. *East. Kent*.....
210° / 50°.....

36. A meteorological ballon was released from *BRISBANE*.....
at *1700* ..Z Colour.....Weight.....gm

Radio-sonde**/radar; Candle**/battery**(**delete as required) *Possibility discounted as ballon travelled north-west from Brisbane*
General wind profile.....
Maximum height tracked.....,000 ft at.....Z
Was it known to have burst?.....

.....15.

- 37. The first significant temperature inversion was of
Possibility of slight inversion at 10,000'
at about 20300 hours local. Info gained
from A.M. R.T. & T. met. station.
ft. measured at.....Z hrs
- 38. Any remarks on satellites, rockets, research balloons,
 comets, meteorites etc. relevant to the sighting.....
the latest satellite prediction not available but
object was not one of these
- 39. When an aircraft is a possible identification, include
 radar trace if available, and ascertain which of the
 aircraft lights were operating.....*Not considered*
a possibility
- 40. The cause (or likely cause) of the sighting ~~is~~/cannot*
 be determined.
- 41. The object reported probably was*/may have been* (delete
 as required)

.....*82 wing AMBOLLEX*(Unit) *R. M. Bertram*(Name)
*11th April 1973*(Date).....*Sqn Ldr*.....(Rank)

0.000

MOUNT TAMBOURNE 3 MI OXFORD 10 MI NESANG 2 MI SOUTHPORT 3 MI

51 63 52 64 53 65 54 66 55 67

SURFERS PARADISE

Broadbeach
Mermaid Beach

Nobby Beach
Miami
Burleigh Heads
Tallebudgera Creek

Palm Beach

Corrumbin
Tugun

COOLANGARAH

MURWILLUMBAH

1:250,000
R-502 SERIES
(TWEED HEADS)

ELEVATION OF HOUSE - 1850'
ELEVATION OF RIDGE - 2250'

POSITION OF HOUSE
POSITION OF LIGHT



RESTRICTED

REPORT ON UFO SIGHTING

AT SPRINGBROOK, QLD ON 9TH APRIL 1973

1. I interviewed Mr and Mrs Pilgrim on Tuesday 10th April, accompanied by Corporal H. Boyd of the Nerang Police Station, and Flying Officer Davison, 82 Wing. The couple appeared to be sober and responsible people, not given to fanciful imaginings.
2. The Pilgrim's house is situated along Springbrook road as shown on the map. To the south-west is a high ridge which dominates the skyline. The ridge is about 400 feet higher than the house and about 1800 feet displaced horizontally. The near side is grassed, the top tree covered, and the far side drops into the Numinbah Valley. A very rough vehicular track runs along the top of the ridge. There are no power lines in the vicinity. A RAAF Combat Survival Course commenced a few miles away the previous day, but no member was in the vicinity of the sighting at that time.
3. Mrs Pilgrim was awakened by a dog at 3.30am and on seeing the light, woke her husband. They observed the object or light for 10-15 minutes before it disappeared. They were not sure whether the light just went out, or dropped over the ridge, but leaned toward the former. The light moved straight up and down, and acrossways in separate movements, each time coming back to the centre of its travel before changing direction. The movement was always horizontal or vertical not oblique. The light was a very intense white, with a reddish tinge, with a smaller more intense centre. It was smaller than the moon but much larger than a star. Mr Pilgrim described it as looking like a tennis ball and the brighter centre like a golf ball. It moved at about 5-10 mph within a 36 inch circle at arm's length. The light fluctuated in intensity and sparkled like a star. Just before it disappeared, it emitted a jet of sparks, or smaller (pea sized) lights from the right hand side just as if it had collided with something. The light was definitely on the near side of the ridge as the darker ridge line could be seen above it on occasions, and clouds could be seen behind it. No illumination of the ground was apparent, and no sound whatsoever was heard.
4. The policeman, Flying Officer Davison, and myself afterwards went to the ridge and examined the area closely, but no sign of anything unusual was found. The weather was fine, with only a few scattered clouds above the ridge. There was a possibility of a slight inversion at 10,000 ft.
5. In late January of this year, the Pilgrim's and some others at the house observed some strange lights in the same place at about 8.00 to 8.30 pm. The lights were smaller, pinky-red in colour, and disappeared to the north. Apparently, at that time, several sightings were made in that area as the 'Bulletin' did an article on them. No report was made to RAAF Amberley. Also, the Pilgrims saw some lights as described in this paragraph last November or early December. They made no report as they reasoned that it could have been a helicopter.
6. My thoughts on the subject are as follows:
 - a. The moon was not visible at that time, no planets were near, and the sighting did not resemble a star in size or behaviour.
 - b. The aircraft proceeding to Brisbane via Coolangatta could have cut the corner and flew overhead. However, I cannot imagine that it was an aircraft. No helicopters were in the area.
 - c. The met balloon released at Brisbane is discounted as the wind took it to the north-west. A high pressure system existed at the time.
 - d. There was no thunderstorm activity and no power lines in the areas, so 'fireballs' are ruled out.
 - e. There was only a possibility of a slight inversion.
 - f. It did not behave like a meteorite or satellite.

RESTRICTED

. / 7. During

RESTRICTED

-2-

7. During the interview, both Mr and Mrs Pilgrim agreed with each other on every answer without hesitation. Both had a clear idea of what they had seen. Neither had been drinking. I am afraid that I am at a loss to explain this phenomeng.

9 MAR 73

SIGHTING # 11

BELMONT
NSW

D MCGILL

5801.1.1 Pt 21 (118)

16 MAY 73

DEPAIR (2471)

HOWLM

F10

REPORTS OF UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTINGS

Enclosed for your records are copies of letters from this Department to Mr. D. McGill, Mr. A. H. Brown, Mrs. P. Clelland and Mr. H. Criesberg in answer to their reports of unusual aerial sightings.

ENCLOSURES Copies of letters to Mr. D McGill,
Mr. A H Brown, Mrs P Clelland and Mr
H. Criesberg

M. C. Miller M. GREGGTON FINGERS IR-2 2408

580/1/1 Pr21 (11a)

14 MAY 1973

Mr D. McGill,
4 Hall Street,
BELMONT, NSW 2280

Dear Sir,

As a result of our investigations into your report of unusual occurrences on 9th March 1973, the investigating team has determined that the most probable cause of the extraordinary phenomenon encountered in your lounge room, was the ignition of an accumulation of methane gas, and the aerial objects reported, were in fact retinal images resulting from the indoor light intensification.

Initially, the indoor phenomenon was thought to be corona discharge from the T.V. set or other electrical appliance/wiring. This theory was discounted after the physical investigation of electrical/electronic aspects by Squadron Leader K. MADDOX, an RAAF radio/radar specialist. All electrical connections were in order, and no sign of any insulation breakdown or RF tracks were noted. Additionally, the length of time of the event, and the lack of both noise and smell were not consistent with corona effect.

Other theories were then investigated, resulting in the above determination.

In marshy areas, methane, CH_4 which is an odourless, colourless, inflammable, gaseous, hydrocarbon, is released by decaying organic matter. Methane may be ignited either spontaneously or by other means of ignition, and will illuminate surrounding areas with either a blue, or sometimes yellow or red colour. Occasionally, observers have placed their hands into these luminescent gases without feeling any heat.

The position of your residence on the western side of a large marshy area, with a large mine exhaust fan situated approximately 400 - 500 yds further west is conducive to this theory. An easterly wind could have blown large quantities of methane through the lounge room double doors and this gas would be trapped in the room. The gas could subsequently have been ignited by a match, or a static discharge from the nylon carpet.

/Although the

Although the presence of methane in the area could not be substantiated during the visit to your residence, this gas is not unusual in Australia. Further credence is given to this theory by the report of a similar occurrence of lesser intensity and duration the following night.

Regarding the aerial sighting as reported, it is thought that the two globular objects were in fact optical illusions caused by image retention by the retinae and the apparent movement was due to head movement rather than object movement.

We thank you for this most interesting report and trust that these explanations are satisfactory.

Yours faithfully,



(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

*A
explains
JAH
11 May 73*

RESTRICTED



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

TELEPHONE: Newcastle 65-1221



Headquarters
RAAF Base
WILLIAMTOWN NSW 2314

3rd May 1973

IN REPLY QUOTE 5/2/Air(37)

DAFI
Secretary
Department of Air
Russell Offices
CANBERRA ACT 2600

For Information:

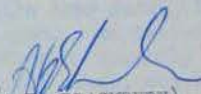
Headquarters Operational Command (Attn: C Intell O)

- References:
- A. HQWLM 5/2/Air(30) of 29th March 1973
 - B. 5/2/Air(32) of 30th April 1973 (copy attached)

1. Reference A detailed an unusual aerial sighting by Mr David McGill of Belmont, New South Wales on 9th March 1973, and also an extraordinary occurrence whereby Mr McGill's living room took on a purple glow for quite some time. Reference B is a report on a technical investigation of the "purpling" incident.

2. The investigation which was centred on electronic and electrical appliances in the house also embraced an examination of the area in which the McGills live. The possibility of marsh gas accumulation as a feasible explanation of the occurrence was mentioned to Mr McGill during the investigation.

3. Forwarded for your further attention.


(A.F. BLACKBURN)
Flight Lieutenant
for Officer T/Commanding

Enclosure: 1. Copy of Reference B.



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MINUTE PAPER

(This side only to be written on)

481S/5/2/Air Pt3(32)

(32)

Subject: INVESTIGATION OF UFOs AT BELMONT

Base Intell O

CO 481SQN (thru OIC AEMF) *JA*

a plausible explanation. I presume the Base Intel O will follow so refer. see report to Dept Air, Army. JCS.

1. The OIC Radio/Radar (481SQN), and the W Off Radio (481SQN) proceeded to 4 Hall Street, BELMONT by service transport on 16 Apr 73 to interview Mr & Mrs D. McGill about the sighting of UFOs. The objects were sighted on the night of 9 Mar 73 and this sighting was preceded by an unusual happening ie the lounge room filled with a purple glow lasting some 40-50 minutes.

2. This report deals with the investigation of the purple glow thought to have come from the TV set, and most of the time was spent in examining electronic electrical equipment at the residence. Other aspects were considered however, and the solution may lie in that direction.

3. Electronic/Electrical Investigations. Most of the Electronic/Electrical investigations centered around the TV set (a FYE T23) model, some four year old), however nothing unusual was noted. All electrical connections were in order, and no sign of any insulation breakdown or RF tracks were noted. Corona discharge was thus discounted as the cause of the purple hue, particularly in view of the length of time of the event (40-50 minutes), and the total lack of noise and smell of "ozone" - both characteristics of Corona effect.

4. Other Electronic Aspects. Mr McGill is a self styled "radio investigator" and has an array of old radio equipments in his radio workshop. He has a ham radio receiver and is an avid "listening" radio ham. His workshop has a long wire antenna fitted externally to the workshop, the only other antenna is a large phased array for the TV set. There is no equipment in this workshop or external to it that could account for the purple hue and, in addition, Mr McGill is adamant that all electrical power was disconnected from the workshop at the time of the event.

5. Other Aspects. The residence is situated on the western side of a large marshy area. A large (approx 20' diameter) mine exhaust fan is also situated some 4-500 yards on the western side of the residence. The lounge room is an almost totally closed room with a large double door facing the easterly direction, this double door is normally left open. An easterly wind could blow large quantities of methane (carburetted hydrogen, commonly called "Marsh Gas", that burns with a blue flame) from the marshy areas, coupled with any exhausted mine gas, and this mixture would be trapped in the closed room. The collection of gas could have built up in the room over several days of easterly winds and on the night in question, could have been ignited by a match (Mr McGill is a smoker) or a static discharge from the nylon carpet. Attempts to substantiate the existence of marsh gas in the area were unsuccessful.

6. To summarise, the TV set and other electrical/electronic equipments in the area were all in good condition and this discounted any thoughts of corona discharge. Although the presence of marsh gas in the area could not be

.../substantiated.

substantiated, this gas is not unusual in Australia and, when coupled with exhausted mine gas, and trapped in the closed lounge room area could have been ignited by some means, giving off a blue/purple hue. This conclusion is somewhat substantiated by a similar occurrence although of a much lesser intensity and duration, the following night.

K.J.J. Maddox

(K.J.J. MADDOX)
Sqn Ldr
OIC Radio/Radar

30 Apr 73

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

TELEPHONE: Newcastle 65 1221



Headquarters
RAAF Base
WILLIAMTOWN NSW 2314

29th March 1973

IN REPLY QUOTE 5/2/Air(30)

Secretary
Department of Air
Russell Offices
CANBERRA ACT 2600

DAFI



For Information:

Headquarters Operational Command

REPORT OF UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

1. Attached hereto is a report of an unusual aerial sighting observed by Mr David McGill on the night of 9th March 1973. Because of pressure of work, the writer was unable to interview Mr McGill immediately after the sighting and forms were posted to him to complete and return. After reading Mr McGill's narrative on the back of page one of the proforma, arrangements were made to interview him and his wife, at their home in Belmont. At approximately 2000 hours on the 9th March Mr McGill, who is under treatment for a heart condition, was sitting in his lounge room. As his wife walked into the room she noticed a large purple band across Mr McGill's forehead, but said nothing thinking he was about to have a heart attack. At this stage Mr McGill said to his wife "You've gone purple" and she to him "You've gone purple too". By this time there was a strong purple light throughout the room and Mr McGill noticed a purple ball move down his arm from the shoulder to the elbow and then disappear. The whole room and all its contents by now had taken on a strong purple hue. Thinking that the colouring may be coming from the TV set, this was turned off and an overhead light turned on with little difference to the intensity of the colour. The "manifestation" lasted for approximately half an hour then slowly decreased in intensity until the purple colouring was only visible in the corner of the room behind the TV set, and this too, eventually disappeared.

2. Mr McGill was rather shaken after his experience and walked outside onto the side porch for a breath of fresh air. As he gazed up into the sky he saw two globular objects racing across the sky at high speed. The objects one behind the other took, on his estimate, 90 seconds to cross his full field of view after which they disappeared in a northerly direction.

3. There were no service aircraft active in the vicinity at this stage and no civil aircraft. No major planets were visible in the sky at the time. There was a temperature inversion of 1°C at 8-10000 feet measured at 1100Z hours from Williamtown, there were no satellites visible with a bearing on this report.

.../4. With

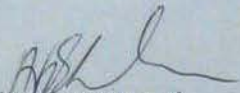
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4. With reference to the incident inside the house the room then contained an old green nylon Westminster carpet which has since been replaced by a new carpet, and was not available for inspection at the time of the interview. The house itself is clad with white aluminium siding, insulated with "coolite" insulating material. The house is well earthed. It is completely shielded so far as the reception of radio signals is concerned. Mr McGill describes himself as a radio experimenter and has a reasonably well equipped radio workshop at the back of his house. He has assured the writer that all his radio equipment was turned off at the time of the manifestation. Weather conditions at 1115Z hours 9th March were:

Calm, visibility 20 miles, sky clear, maximum temperature 24°C, dew point 20°C with a 2°C surface inversion to 1000 feet.

5. Mr McGill and his wife are a very friendly co-operative couple who impressed the writer with their sincerity, and there is no cause to doubt their statements of the facts as presented. At this stage the cause or likely cause of the unusual aerial sighting cannot be determined.

6. Forwarded for your further investigation.


(A.F. BLACKBURN)
Flight Lieutenant
for Officer T/Commanding

Enclosure: 1. Report of Unusual Aerial Sighting.

REPORT ON UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

Part 1 - Report by Observer



(As a preliminary to completing this form, the observer is invited to describe the sighting in his or her own manner, using either separate sheets or the back of this form.)

1. Name of observer David McGill, J.P. Age 58 years
2. Address of observer No. 4 Hall Street, Belmont 2280 R.P.W.
Phone Ncle 453478
3. Occupation of observer Invalid Pensioner (Radio Experimenter)
4. Date and time of start of observation 9th March 1973 approx. 9 P.M.
How certain is the date? Accurate
How accurate is the time of start? within 30 minutes i.e. 8.30/9.50 P.M.
5. Duration of observation 9.0 seconds
How accurate is your estimate? mental estimate (not by timepiece)
6. Observer's location at time of sighting Above address on my front porch then whilst walking out to my yard to follow object
How familiar is observer with this locality? Very
I have lived 6 years & 3 1/2 months at above address.
7. Weather conditions at time of observation Perfect to the south east where object first sighted, slight cumulus to the north where they disappeared from my view due to cloud cover.
8. Describe any aids/equipment used in the observation Spectacles only
9. Where was object first observed:
 - a. Relative to your surroundings South by east
 - b. Angle of elevation 2 o'clock
 - c. Compass angle bearing N by W
 - d. How accurate are these estimates? reasonably accurate
10. What first attracted observer's attention? movement in the sky to S.E. while I was idly looking skyward, which I am prone to do on a clear night
11. If there was more than one light/object:
 - a. How many were there? Two
 - b. In what formation were they? one leading slightly, the other lower
12. What was the colour of the light or object? ordinary light globe color
13. What was the brightness? (Compare with full moon or common light source at a stated distance eg, ordinary street light at 100 yards)
street light at 100 yards i.e. globe type; not fluorescent
14. What was the apparent size at nearest approach:
 - a. Relative to Venus or Moon size of 20' diameter at 12000 ft high
 - b. Relative dimensions in inches at arm's length (about 20 inches from the eyes)

No. 4. Hall pt
Belmont 2280

76 S. W. 16th W. Ind. q.

R. F. Blackburn, H. Lt.
for Officer T. Commanding

Sir, thank you for your letter and response
to my phone call of 9/3 inst.

The objects in question were sighted by me
purely by chance, but nevertheless they were very real and
I solemnly declare before Almighty God that I have given
you answers to your questionnaire as accurate as I can.

The flight of these objects was a perfect lateral
flight as if under some control of some person or
persons or unknown power. No deviation or aerobatic
phenomena, or loss or gain of altitude. No noise or
exhaust flame or vapors, just two reasonably bright
globes travelling in the atmosphere at a fast rate
of speed in $\frac{1}{2}$ arrowhead formation i.e. one in
front and one slightly lower and to the left
and slightly to the rear of leader.

I called to my wife to come and see
them but I am sorry to say that by the time she
arrived at my side they were no longer visible.

We also experienced another phenomena
in our own home that I would much prefer to
talk over with you in person only, not by phone or
letter as it is to say the least an account of a very
unusual and odd (to say the least) happening, this on
the same night 9/3/73 at 7 to 8 pm. If and when you do
allow or grant me an audience, I would not in the
least blame you if you treated our story as incredible
and impossible, but I can only stick to the truth.

I experiment with electronics and I am extremely
interested in all phenomena.

Thanking you as per,

I remain truly
yours faithfully
David W. Bell.

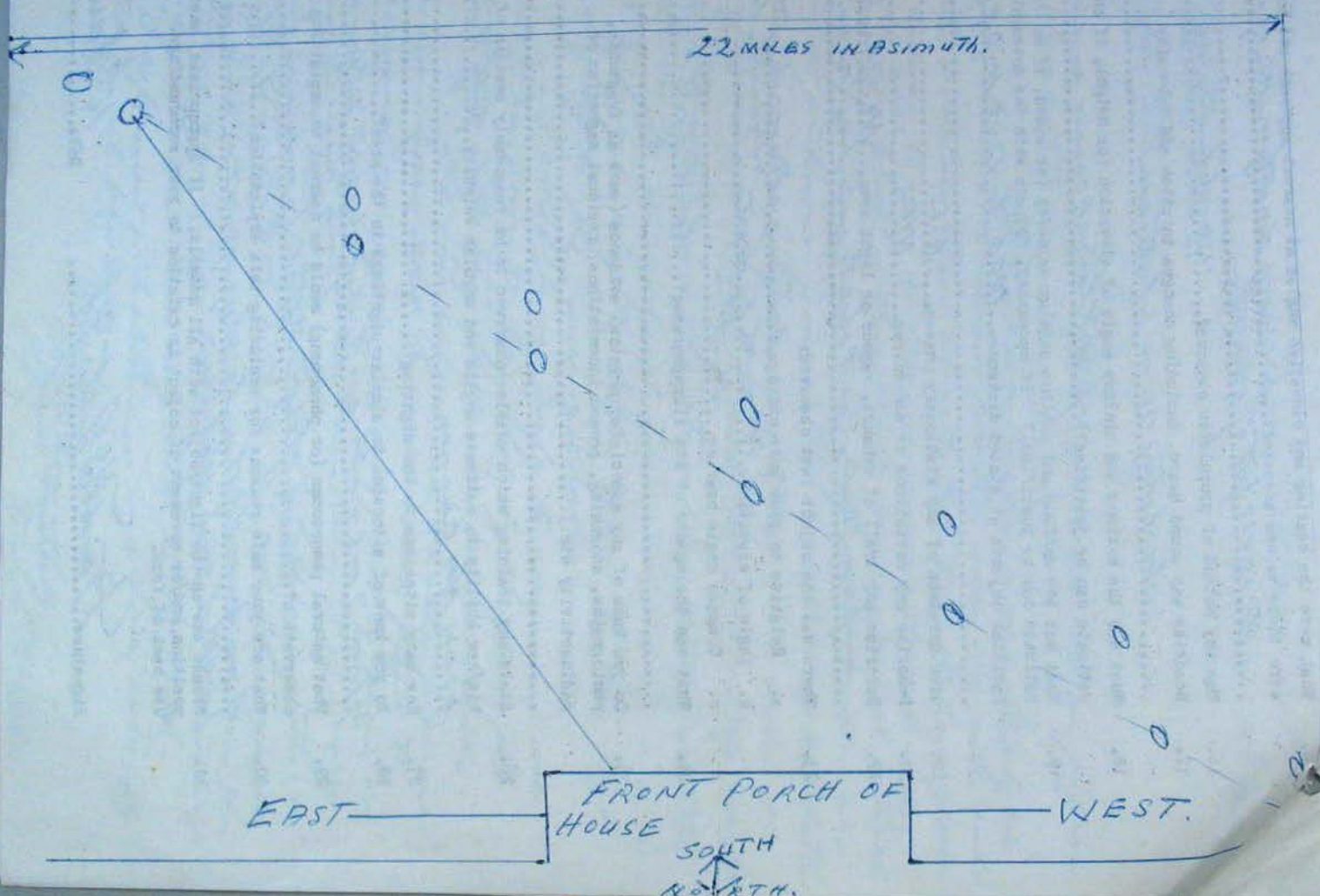
201 1679 March 1973
2280

- 15. What were the bearing and elevation angles at nearest approach and how were these values assessed? *Bearing directly north by east at 10,000 feet of elevation*
- 16. Was any method of propulsion obvious? *no definitely no*
- 17. Describe any sound heard, including changes in pitch and intensity *absolutely none whatsoever*
- 18. What was the maximum and minimum angle of elevation (or height, if an estimate can be justified)? *perfect lateral course as above*
- 19. What was the maximum and minimum angular velocity (or speed, if an estimate can be justified)? If necessary, compare with the movement of familiar objects at stated distances. *1000 to 1200 M.P.H.*
- 20. Give duration of any stationary phases. *NIL*
- 21. Describe any deviations or manoeuvres. *NIL*
- 22. Describe any trail of exhaust, vapour or light seen. *No exhaust or vapour trails just object own brightness*
- 23. Where was the object last observed:
 - a. Relative to your surroundings. *entering cloud directly over newcastle city*
 - b. Angle of elevation. *90° north by east*
 - c. Compass angle bearing. *North*
- 24. What was the manner of its disappearance? *cloud cover*
- 25. Do you know of any associated physical evidence (such as fragments, photographs, scorching, ground indentations, residual magnetism or radioactivity etc.) *no*
- 26. State any training which enables observer to be reasonably certain of his/her ability to estimate angles and angular velocity. *fully trained 40mm AA Gunner*
- 27. How many witnesses to the sighting? *none - sorry*
- 28. Do you know of witnesses to similar sightings in the area? *yes*
- 29. What natural phenomenon (or phenomena) would be nearest to explaining your observation? *approx 7 or 8 months ago I reported object to you over Toronto area - 20 mins duration ground globe propelled by unknown force*
- 30. What are your main reasons for excluding this explanation? *To the best of my power of thought the information above is the best I can describe*
- 31. Please sketch the light/object with all details. If appropriate, sketch position and/or movement of object in relation to your surroundings. Use back of form.

Signature *David McGill, J.P.*

Date *16th March 1973*

South.



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-3-

Part 2 - Unit Evalu

32. The following military aircraft
UFO position at the time:
A/C type.....*NIL*.....(1).
Heading.....T...
Height.....,000 f...
Speed.....K...
ATD/ATA*.....hrs.
33. The following civil aircraft were
UFO position at the time:
A/C type.....*NIL*.....(1).
Heading.....T...

Part 2 - Unit Evaluation

32. The following military aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:
 A/C type.....*NIL*.....(1).....(2).....(3)
 Heading.....T.....T.....T
 Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000 ft
 Speed.....K.....K.....K
 ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs
33. The following civil aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:
 A/C type.....*NIL*.....(1).....(2).....(3)
 Heading.....T.....T.....T
 Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000 ft
 Speed.....K.....K.....K
 ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs
 *Give location of nearest ATD or ATA.
34. Observer's Location: Latitude.....*33°02'*.....Longitude.....*151°40'*
35. Give bearing and elevation of any planets and major stars that were in that portion of the sky at the time. By day, give location of Venus only.....*NIL*.....
36. A meteorological balloon was released from.....*N/A*.....
 at.....Z...Colour.....Weight.....gm
 Radio-sonde**/radar**; Candle**/battery** (**delete as required)
 General wind profile.....
 Maximum height tracked.....,000 ft at.....Z
 Was it known to have burst?.....
37. The first significant temperature inversion was of *.2* °C at *0-1000* ft, measured at *1115* Z hrs from *WLM* *meteo* station.
38. Any remarks on satellites, rockets, research balloons, comets, meteorites etc relevant to the sighting.....*N/A*.....
39. When an aircraft is a possible identification, include radar trace if available, and ascertain which of the aircraft lights were operating.....
40. The cause (or likely cause) of the sighting ~~was~~/cannot* be determined.
41. The object reported probably was*/may have been* (delete as required).....

.....*H&WLM*.....(Unit).....*A. F. BLACKBURN*.....(Name)
*29th March 1973*.....(Date).....*Flight Lieutenant*.....(Rank)

Part 2 - Unit Evaluation

32. The following military aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:
 A/C type.....*NIL*.....(1).....(2).....(3)
 Heading.....T.....T.....T
 Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000 ft
 Speed.....K.....K.....K
 ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs
33. The following civil aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:
 A/C type.....*NIL*.....(1).....(2).....(3)
 Heading.....T.....T.....T
 Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000 ft
 Speed.....K.....K.....K
 ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs
- *Give location of nearest ATD or ATA.
34. Observer's Location: Latitude.....*33°02'*.....Longitude.....*151°40'*.....
35. Give bearing and elevation of any planets and major stars that were in that portion of the sky at the time. By day, give location of Venus only.....*NIL*.....
36. A meteorological balloon was released from.....*N/A*.....
 at.....Z.....Colour.....Weight.....gm
 Radio-sonde**/radar**; Candle**/battery** (**delete as required)
 General wind profile.....

Weather for 9th March 1973 at 2100 hrs local

Fine and clear. Visibility 20 miles. Winds calm. Temperature 23.8°C Humidity 78%.
 Pressure 1012.1 Pressure at sea level 1013.2
 Dew point 20 Temp. inversion 2°C 0-1000 ft.

Lightning after six but far away. All clouds had cleared by 2100.
 10.4 hrs of sunshine that day.

15 MAR 73

SIGHTING # 10

MEREWETHER
NSW

N. KELLNER



11

580/1/1 (118)

DEPAR (DAFI)

17 APR 73.

HOWLM

F10

YOUR
5/3/AIR (31) 129 MAR 73
5/2/AIR (29) 129 MAR 73

REPORTS OF UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTINGS

Enclosed for your records are copies of letters from this Department to Mr. T. J. McCosker and Mr. N. Kellner in reply to their reports of unusual aerial sightings.

- ENCLOSURES:
- 1. Copy of letter to Mr. T. J. McCosker
 - 2. Copy of letter to Mr. N. Kellner

M. Kellner

M. GRETTON F10 OFF IR 2 2408

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580/1/1 Pt21 (11A)

16 APR 1973

Mr N. Kellner,
107 Macquarie Street,
MEREWETHER NSW 2291

Dear Sir,

With reference to your report of an unusual aerial sighting on 15th March 1973, it has been determined that the most probable cause was either a meteorite or space debris entering the Earth's atmosphere.

Presently there are 2902 man made objects in space, and debris periodically burns up on re-entry to our atmosphere. From investigation, a significant temperature inversion of 3°C was present at the 8-9000feet altitude level, resulting in a high pollution level of the lower layers. This pollution would be responsible for the apparent red colour of an incandescent body during atmosphere transition.

We trust that this determination satisfactorily explains the phenomenon that you saw, and we thank you for your interest.

Yours faithfully,

(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

G. Odgers
D.O.
12 Apr 73

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

TELEPHONE: Newcastle 65 1221

Headquarters
RAAF Base
WILLIAMTOWN NSW 2314

29th March 1973

IN REPLY QUOTE 5/2/Air(31)

Secretary
Department of Air
Russell Offices
CANBERRA ACT 2600 ✓

DAFI




For Information:

Headquarters Operational Command

REPORT ON UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

1. Forwarded herewith is a report on an unusual aerial sighting observed by Mr Norman Kellner of Merewether. Once again pressure of work precluded an interview with Mr Kellner, however the writer spoke to Mr and Mrs Kellner on the phone, before forwarding the appropriate forms.
2. The sighting, at approximately 2235 hours local, lasted for some three seconds, and was witnessed by Mrs Kellner in the latter stages. The object, a red light appeared to drop quickly until lost to view. No military aircraft were active at this time, there were no civil aircraft active, and no satellites to which the sighting could be attributed. Weather conditions were:

visibility 20 miles, 7/8 cloud at 5,000 feet, and a 3°C temperature inversion at 8-9,000 feet, ie above the cloud level.
3. During the course of the telephone conversation, Mrs Kellner mentioned "a distress signal light," and from the description of the object a red Very light or fireworks rocket would be a reasonable, albeit tenuous explanation of the sighting. No vessels were reported in distress on the night of 15th March.
4. Forwarded for your further investigation.


(A.F. BLACKBURN)
Flight Lieutenant
for Officer T/Commanding

Enclosure: 1. Report on an Unusual Aerial Sighting.

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REPORT ON UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

Part 1 - Report by Observer

(As a preliminary to completing this form, the observer is invited to describe the sighting in his or her own manner, using either separate sheets or the back of this form.) *See Over.*

1. Name of observer..... *NORMAN KELLNER* Age *48*
2. Address of observer..... *107. Marguerite Street Newcastle* Phone *63 1089*
3. Occupation of observer..... *Engineer. Supt. TANNAGE Oxygen Plant.*
4. Date and time of start of observation..... *15-3-73* *10:35 pm.*
 How certain is the date? *Absolutely*
 How accurate is the time of start? *within 5 minutes.*
5. Duration of observation..... *2 1/2 - 3 seconds.*
 How accurate is your estimate? *within 1/2 sec.*
6. Observer's location at time of sighting..... *At home seated watching television.*
 How familiar is observer with this locality? *10 yrs. residence.*
7. Weather conditions at time of observation..... *Fine, still.*
8. Describe any aids/equipment used in the observation..... *Nil.*
9. Where was object first observed:
 - a. Relative to your surroundings..... *Through window at angle 40° to line of vision.*
 - b. Angle of elevation..... *14° to horizontal.*
 - c. Compass angle bearing..... *15° west of south.*
 - d. How accurate are these estimates? *within 2-3°.*
10. What first attracted observer's attention? *Probably eyes attracted by bright light.*
11. If there was more than one light/object:
 - a. How many were there?..... *One.*
 - b. In what formation were they?..... *—*
12. What was the colour of the light or object?..... *Bright red.*
13. What was the brightness? (Compare with full moon or common light source at a stated distance eg. ordinary street light at 100 yards)
 *Red identification lights used on ambulances etc.*
14. What was the apparent size at nearest approach:
 - a. Relative to Venus or Moon..... *Much smaller than moon.*
 - b. Relative dimensions in inches at arm's length (about 20 inches from the eyes)..... *Approx 5" slightly pear or tear shape*

my wife and I were watching television when coatis eyes were attracted by the bright red light.

I immediately pointed out the object to my wife and she observed the last 1/2 - 2 seconds of the object's fall.

At initial observation the object appeared to dwell for split second ($\frac{1}{10}$) but this could have been deception of eyes.

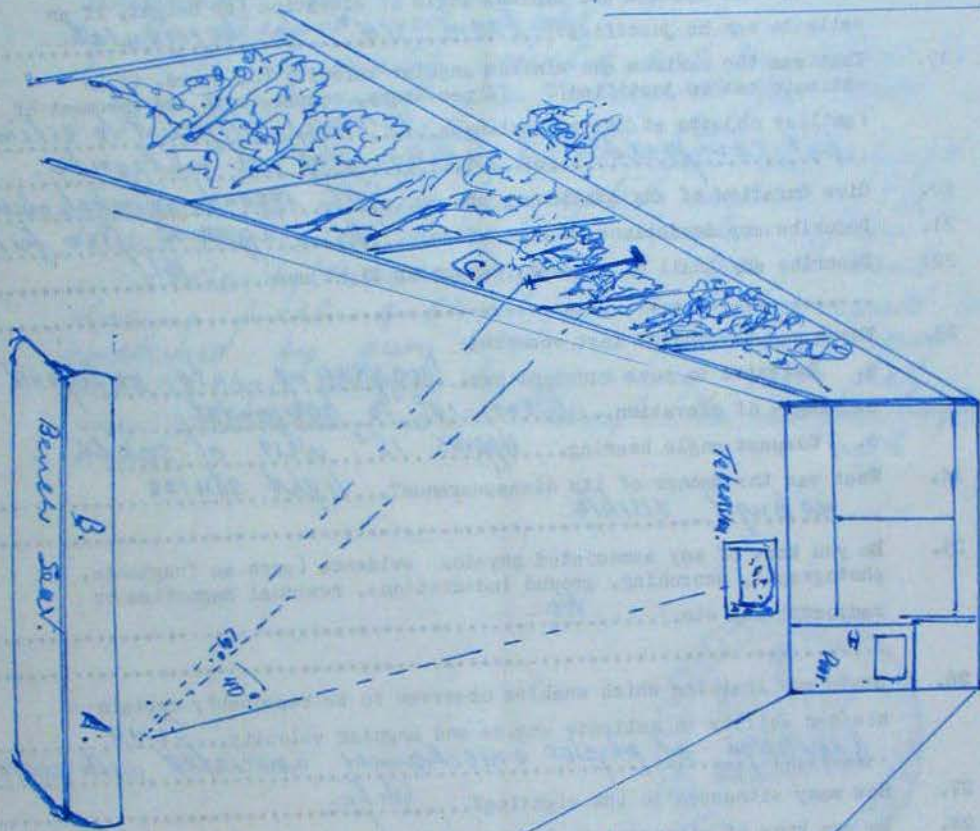
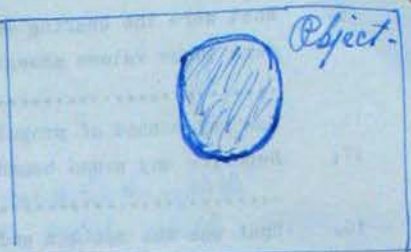
The light source appeared less brilliant during final 4-5° of fall but this could be explained by gum trees in our back yard and the light source disappearing such that my observation was through the ~~leaves~~ ^{branches}.



- 15. What were the bearing and elevation angles at nearest approach and how were these values assessed?..... *Falling vertically*.....
- 16. Was any method of propulsion obvious?..... *No.*.....
- 17. Describe any sound heard, including changes in pitch and intensity..... *Nil.*.....
- 18. What was the maximum and minimum angle of elevation (or height, if an estimate can be justified)?..... *From 14° to horizontal.*.....
- 19. What was the maximum and minimum angular velocity (or speed, if an estimate can be justified)? If necessary, compare with the movement of familiar objects at stated distances..... *Velocity difficult to estimate but comparable to falling star or meteorite.*.....
- 20. Give duration of any stationary phases..... *Split second at initial observation*.....
- 21. Describe any deviations or manoeuvres..... *Nil. apparent free fall.*.....
- 22. Describe any trail of exhaust, vapour or light seen..... *Nil.*.....
- 23. Where was the object last observed:
 - a. Relative to your surroundings..... *Disappearing into or beyond horizon*.....
 - b. Angle of elevation..... *From 10° to horizontal.*.....
 - c. Compass angle bearing..... *Approx 15° west of south.*.....
- 24. What was the manner of its disappearance?..... *light source no longer visible.*.....
- 25. Do you know of any associated physical evidence (such as fragments, photographs, scorching, ground indentations, residual magnetism or radioactivity etc.)..... *No.*.....
- 26. State any training which enables observer to be reasonably certain of his/her ability to estimate angles and angular velocity..... *Some knowledge of physics & mechanics associated with engineering*.....
- 27. How many witnesses to the sighting?..... *Wife.*.....
- 28. Do you know of witnesses to similar sightings in the area?..... *No.*.....
- 29. What natural phenomenon (or phenomena) would be nearest to explaining your observation?..... *Falling star or meteorite.*.....
- 30. What are your main reasons for excluding this explanation?..... *light much brighter red*.....
- 31. Please sketch the light/object with all details. If appropriate, sketch position and/or movement of object in relation to your surroundings. Use back of form.

Signature..... *C. Mellner*..... Date..... *18.3.73*.....

Object approx 5" dia -
slightly elongated or pear shape.
Bright red light.



Observer seated at A.
Wife seated at B.

The trees window [C] are approx 50 ft.
behind.

Part 2 - Unit Evaluation

32. The following military aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C type... N/C (1).....(2).....(3)
Heading.....T.....T.....T
Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000 ft
Speed.....K.....K.....K
ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

33. The following civil aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C type... N/C (1).....(2).....(3)
Heading.....T.....T.....T
Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000 ft
Speed.....K.....K.....K
ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

*Give location of nearest ATD or ATA.

34. Observer's Location: Latitude 32° 58' S.....Longitude 151° 41' E.....

35. Give bearing and elevation of any planets and major stars that were in that portion of the sky at the time. By day, give location of Venus only... N/A

36. A meteorological balloon was released from... N/A
at.....Z...Colour.....Weight.....gm
Radio-sonde**/radar**; Candle**/battery** (**delete as required)
General wind profile.....
Maximum height tracked.....,000 ft at.....Z
Was it known to have burst?.....

37. The first significant temperature inversion was of ... 3...°C at
8-9000...ft, measured at... 1100.....Z hrs from... WLM
Meteorological station.

38. Any remarks on satellites, rockets, research balloons, comets, meteorites etc relevant to the sighting... N/A

39. When an aircraft is a possible identification, include radar trace if available, and ascertain which of the aircraft lights were operating... N/A

40. The cause (or likely cause) of the sighting can*/cannot* be determined.

41. The object reported probably ~~was~~/may have been* (delete as required).
a Very light, or fireworks rocket

HAWLM

(Unit)

A F BLACKBURN

(Name)

29th March 1973

(Date)

Flight Lieutenant

(Rank)

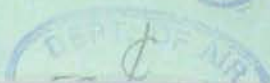
13 MAR 73

SIGHTING # 9

NEWCASTLE
NSW

T.V. McCOSKER

RESTRICTED



16 APR 1973

580/1/1 Pt21 (10A)

Mr T.J. McCoaker,
14 Croudace Road,
TINGIRA HEIGHTS NSW 2301

Dear Sir,

With reference to your report of an unusual aerial sighting on 13th March 1973, it has been determined that the most probable cause was a Mirage aircraft operating in the Sydney - Richmond area at high altitudes.

Investigation has revealed that two Mirage aircraft were operating in the area stated during the time period of sighting, but no civil air activity, satellite tracks or other phenomenon are recorded. There was a small temperature inversion of 1°C at 2-3000 feet altitude evident in the Newcastle area, which would result in a moderate pollution level below that altitude. The Mirages were carrying out intercept training, using afterburners, and the most logical explanation is that you saw the bright light and red glow of one Mirage using afterburner during an intercept and subsequent high speed climb. The pulsating effect is accountable to light refraction through varying densities of the lower atmosphere.

We trust that this explanation is satisfactory and thank you for your interest.

Yours faithfully,

(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

F
5/10/73
Doh
12/4/73

~~RESTRICTED~~



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

TELEPHONE: Newcastle 65 1221

DEPT
58041-1
DAFI 9-3-73

Headquarters
RAAF Base
WILLIAMTOWN NSW 2314

29th March 1973

IN REPLY QUOTE 5/2/air (29)

Secretary
Department of Air
Russell Offices
CANBERRA ACT 2600 ✓
DAFI

RECEIVED
- 3 APR 1973
DAFI

For Information:

Headquarters Operational Command

REPORT ON UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

1. Forwarded herewith is a report on an unusual aerial sighting, observed on the night of Tuesday 13th March 1973. The observer, Mr T.J. McCosker, a sincere, sensible young man, was interviewed at his home on the afternoon of Thursday 14th March. Mrs McCosker, who was at work during the interview was a witness to the sighting.

2. The observer had gone out to the back porch at approximately 1900 hours, and just happened to notice a bright flashing light in a SSE direction. The flashing was continuous, and between flashes he could discern a dull red glow, about the size of a peppercorn berry. The object moved steadily across the field of vision, in a Westerly direction and finally climbed at great speed till it was lost to view. The sighting lasted for 3 - 4 minutes and the object appeared to be at a great distance. Mr and Mrs McCosker are both used to aircraft flying by at night, and in their opinion the sighting bore no resemblance to an aircraft whatsoever.

3. Two Mirage aircraft were active in the Penrith/Richmond area between 30,000 - 32,000 feet over the period of sighting but no civil aircraft were flying in the area of the sighting. There was a 1°C temperature inversion of at 2-3000 feet measured at 1100Z hours from Williamtown Meteorological Section. There were no planets in that position of the sky, and no satellites applicable to the sighting.

4. The most likely explanation is that the observer saw a Mirage aircraft executing a climb with afterburner, and was dead astern of the aircraft.

5. Forwarded for your further investigation.

A.F. Blackburn
(A.F. BLACKBURN)
Flight Lieutenant
for Officer T/Commanding

~~RESTRICTED~~

(2)

REPORT ON UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

Part 1 - Report by Observer

(As a preliminary to completing this form, the observer is invited to describe the sighting in his or her own manner, using either separate sheets or the back of this form.)

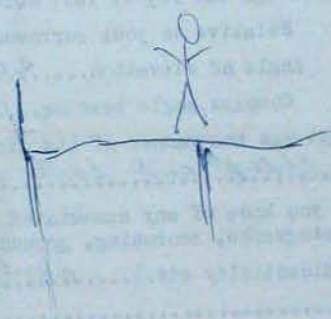
1. Name of observer... IREVOR JAMES McEUSKER Age... 22
2. Address of observer... 14 CRODACE RD TINGIAPA HEIGHTS 2301
NEWCASTLE AREA Phone... -
3. Occupation of observer... AUDIT CLERK
4. Date and time of start of observation... 1900 HRS 13 MAR 73
How certain is the date? QUITE
How accurate is the time of start? ± 5 minutes
5. Duration of observation... 3-4 minutes
How accurate is your estimate? fairly
6. Observer's location at time of sighting... at home
How familiar is observer with this locality? in area for two years
7. Weather conditions at time of observation... very clear
8. Describe any aids/equipment used in the observation... none
9. Where was object first observed:
 - a. Relative to your surroundings... facing SSE
 - b. Angle of elevation... 40° approx
 - c. Compass angle bearing... approx 160°
 - d. How accurate are these estimates? reasonably
10. What first attracted observer's attention? bright flashing light
11. If there was more than one light/object:
 - a. How many were there?
 - b. In what formation were they?
12. What was the colour of the light or object? flashing white & basic red glow
13. What was the brightness? (Compare with full moon or common light source at a stated distance eg, ordinary street light at 100 yards)
flashing most at night
14. What was the apparent size at nearest approach:
 - a. Relative to Venus or Moon... comparable to Venus
 - b. Relative dimensions in inches at arm's length (about 20 inches from the eyes)... about the size of a peppercorn having for red glow

- 15. What were the bearing and elevation angles at nearest approach and how were these values assessed? *no bearing sighting*
- 16. Was any method of propulsion obvious? *none*
- 17. Describe any sound heard, including changes in pitch and intensity *none*
- 18. What was the maximum and minimum angle of elevation (or height, if an estimate can be justified)? *56° to start then up to 20°*
- 19. What was the maximum and minimum angular velocity (or speed, if an estimate can be justified)? If necessary, compare with the movement of familiar objects at stated distances. *never seen anything travel at such fast speed*
- 20. Give duration of any stationary phases. *none*
- 21. Describe any deviations or manoeuvres. *none*
- 22. Describe any trail of exhaust, vapour or light seen. *no nothing*
- 23. Where was the object last observed:
 - a. Relative to your surroundings. *almost due west*
 - b. Angle of elevation. *20°*
 - c. Compass angle bearing. *270°*
- 24. What was the manner of its disappearance? *dimmed at very fast speed and lost to view*
- 25. Do you know of any associated physical evidence (such as fragments, photographs, scorching, ground indentations, residual magnetism or radioactivity etc.) *none*
- 26. State any training which enables observer to be reasonably certain of his/her ability to estimate angles and angular velocity. *none*
- 27. How many witnesses to the sighting? *observer and wife*
- 28. Do you know of witnesses to similar sightings in the area? *none known*
- 29. What natural phenomenon (or phenomena) would be nearest to explaining your observation? *none*
- 30. What are your main reasons for excluding this explanation? *N/A*
- 31. Please sketch the light/object with all details. If appropriate, sketch position and/or movement of object in relation to your surroundings. Use back of form. *[see over]*

Signature *J J M Cochet* Date *15-3-73*

Lost to view

First Sighting



Part 2 - Unit Evaluation

32. The following military aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C type... MIRAGE (1) MIRAGE (2) (3)
Heading... 170 then 270 T... 170 then 270 T... T
Height... 4500 ft... 31,000 ft... 000 ft
Speed... 450 K... K... K
ATD/ATA... WLM 1830 hrs... WLM 1830 hrs... hrs
WLM 1940 WLM 2010

33. The following civil aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C type... N/A (1) (2) (3)
Heading... T... T... T
Height... 000 ft... 000 ft... 000 ft
Speed... K... K... K
ATD/ATA*... hrs... hrs... hrs

*Give location of nearest ATD or ATA.

34. Observer's Location: Latitude... 33°00' S Longitude... 151°42' E

35. Give bearing and elevation of any planets and major stars that were in that portion of the sky at the time. By day, give location of Venus only... N/A

36. A meteorological balloon was released from... N/A
at... Z... Colour... Weight... gm
Radio-sonde**/radar**; Candle**/battery** (**delete as required)
General wind profile...
Maximum height tracked... 000 ft at... Z
Was it known to have burst?...

37. The first significant temperature inversion was of ... 1.0°C at
2,000 - 3,000 ft, measured at... 11.00 Z hrs from... WLM
station.

38. Any remarks on satellites, rockets, research balloons, comets, meteorites etc relevant to the sighting... N/A

39. When an aircraft is a possible identification, include radar trace if available, and ascertain which of the aircraft lights were operating... N/A

40. The cause (or likely cause) of the sighting can*~~not~~ be determined.

41. The object reported probably was*~~not~~ (delete as required).
A Mirage aircraft executing a climb with afterburner.

H&WLM (Unit) A. F. BLACKBURN (Name)

29th March 1973 (Date) Flight Lieutenant (Rank)

17 MAR 73

SIGHTING # 8

AMBERLEY
Q-3

J.V. STOREY

5 APR 1973

580/1/1 Pt21 (9A)

Mr J.V. Storey,
1 Gibbon Street,
AMBERLEY QLD 4305

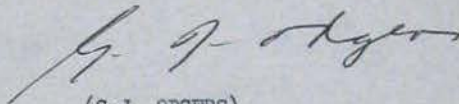
Dear Sir,

With reference to your report of an unusual aerial sighting on 17th March 1973, it has been determined that the most probable cause was either a meteorite or space debris entering the earth's atmosphere.

Presently there are 2902 man made objects in space and debris periodically burns up on re-entry into the earth's atmosphere. The time for space debris or meteorites to burn up is extremely short and would correspond with the length of time of your sighting. The apparent green colour is a common astronomical phenomenon which is attributable to atmospheric density variations, or when an object is sighted low on the horizon through a polluted atmosphere.

We trust this determination satisfactorily explains the phenomenon that you saw, and we thank you for your interest.

Yours faithfully,



(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

A
GJC
DAM
20/4/73

580/1/1 P-2(9B)

DEPAIR (242.)

3 APR 73

HQAMB

82 WC INTEL

YOUR 82 WC 5/9/AIR
(116) OF 20 MAR 73.

REPORTS OF UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTINGS

Enclosed for your records is a copy of
a letter from this Department to Mr.
J. V. Storey in reply to his report
of an unusual aerial sighting

Enclosure: Copy of letter to Mr. J. V. Storey

M. Cretton

M1. CRETTON FUG RFF

1R-2 2408

Royal Australian Air Force A273 Feb 70 MEMO		For use within the RAAF only Write or print clearly	OUR FILE 82 W 5/9/AIR	FOLIO 116 (9)
FROM HQ AMB		DATE 20 MARCH 73	REFERENCES HQSC 3/6/AIR(22) dated 11 AUG 72 HQOC 5/15/AIR(40) dated 1 Dec 72	
TO DEPAIR		ATTENTION DAFI - 1R		
SUBJECT UFO REPORT				

1. FORWARDED IS ONE COPY OF A UFO REPORT COMPLETED BY MRS J.V. STOREY OF AMBERLEY.

2. ATTACHED TO THE REPORT IS 82 WING'S EVALUATION AND A MAP SHOWING AREA OF OBSERVATION.

ENCLOSURE: 1. UFO REPORT BY J.V. STOREY, AMBERLEY

SIGNATURE <i>L. Egan</i>	PRINTED NAME L. EGAN	RANK Flt Lt	APPOINTMENT A/W/O	PHONE EXT. 2023
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REPORT ON UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

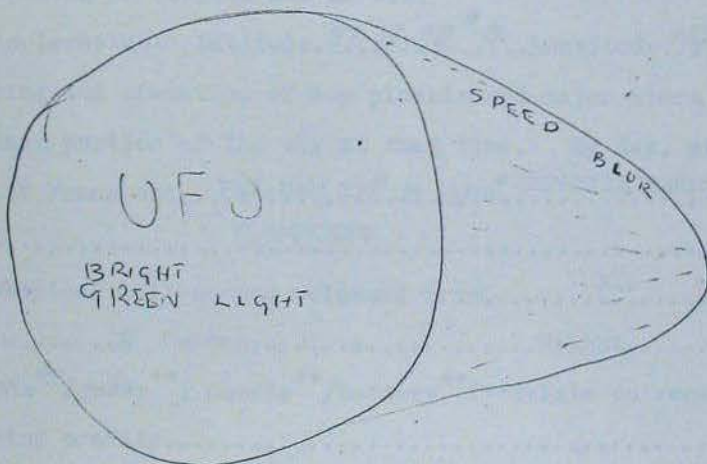
Part I - Report by Observer

(As a preliminary to completing this form, the observer is invited to describe the sighting in his or her own manner, using either separate sheets or the back of this form.)

- 1. Name of observer. JOANE VALERIE STOREY Age 25
- 2. Address of observer. 1 GIBSON STREET AMBERLEY QLD 4305
 Phone.....
- 3. Occupation of observer.... MACHINIST.....
- 4. Date and time of start of observation. 17 MARCH 1973 at 2.15 AM ...
 How certain is the date? DEFINITE
- How accurate is the time of start FAIRLY CLOSE WITHIN 10 MINUTES
- 5. Duration of observation. LESS THAN 1 SECOND
- How accurate is your estimate?.....
- 6. Observer's location at time of sighting. AMBERLEY
- How familiar is observer with this locality? FAMILIAR
- 7. Weather conditions at time of observation. CLEAR
- 8. Describe any aids/equipment used in the observation. NONE
- 9. Where was object first observed:
 (a) Relative to your surroundings. NW - NW DIRECTION
- 315° (MAG) - 285° (+ or - 5°) FROM AIR PHOTOS OF AFB MARRIED QUARTERS
- PICTURE FOR USE
- (b) angle of elevation..... APPROX 5°
- (c) compass angle bearing..... AS ABOVE
- (d) how accurate are these estimates. ACCURATE ie (+ or - 5°)
- 10. What first attracted observer's attention? BRIGHTNESS OF GREEN LIGHT
- AND SPEED OF TRAVEL
- 11. If there was more than one light/object:
 (a) how many were there?..... ONE
- (b) in what formation were they?..... N/A

12. What was the colour of the light or object?.... GREEN.....
13. What was the brightness? (compare with full moon or common light source at a stated distance, e.g. ordinary street light at 100 yards)..... TRAFFIC LIGHT.....
14. What was the apparent size at nearest approach:
- (a) relative to Venus or Moon,.... LARGER THAN VENUS.....
- (b) relative dimensions in inches at arm's length (about 20 inches from the eyes)..... 2" in DIAMETER.....
15. What were the bearing and elevation angles at nearest approach and how were these values assessed?.....
-
16. Was any method of propulsion obvious?..... NO.....
17. Describe any sound heard, including changes in pitch and intensity..... NO SOUND.....
18. What was the maximum and minimum angle of elevation (or height, if an estimate can be justified)?..... 5°/NO CHANGE.....
19. What was the maximum and minimum angular velocity (or speed, - if an estimate can be justified)? If necessary, compare with the movement of familiar objects at stated distances. 800. INQTS......
-
20. Give duration of any stationary phases..... NONE.....
21. Describe any deviations or manoeuvres..... NONE.....
22. Describe any trail of exhaust, vapour or light seen..... NONE.....
-
23. Where was object last observed:
- (a) relative to your surroundings... ON BEARING OF 285° MAG. Heading South (approx)
- (b) angle of elevation... 5° APPROX
- (c) compass angle bearing... ON BEARING OF 285° MAG
24. What was the manner of its disappearance?..... VANISHED.....
25. Do you know of any associated physical evidence (such as fragments, photographs, scorching, ground indentations, residual magnetism or radioactivity etc)..... NO.....
-

- 26. State any training which enables observer to be reasonably certain of his/her ability to estimate angles and angular velocity.....NONE.....
- 27. How many witness to the sighting?.....NONE.....
- 28. Do you know of witnesses to similar sightings in the area?.....NO.....
- 29. What natural phenomenon (or phenomena) would be nearest to explaining your observation?.....NO IDEA.....
- 30. What are your main reasons for excluding this explanation?.....NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT BEFORE.....
- 31. Please sketch the light/object with all details. If appropriate, sketch position and/or movement of object in relation to your surroundings. Use back of form, if needed.



Signature.....*[Handwritten Signature]*..... Date.....19th March 1973.....

Part 2 - Unit Evaluation

32. The following military aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C type...NIL.....(1).....(2).....(3)
Heading.....T.....T.....T
Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000ft
Speed.....K.....K.....K
ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

33. The following civil aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C type...NIL.....(1).....(2).....(3)
Heading.....T.....T.....T
Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000ft
Speed.....K.....K.....K
ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

* Give location of nearest ATD or ATA.

34. Observer's Location: Latitude 27° 38' 12" S Longitude 152° 41' 30" E

35. Give bearing and elevation of any planets and major stars that were in that portion of the sky at that time. By day, give location of Venus only. FULL MOON 290° AT 25/30° ELEVATION. REGULUS 290° AT 5° ELEVATION

36. A meteorological balloon was released from...NIL at...Z Colour.....Weight.....gm Radio-sonde**/radar** : Candle**/battery** (**delete as required) General wind profile..... Maximum height tracked.....,000 ft at...Z Was it known to have burst?.....

37. The first significant temperature inversion was of...NIL...°C at...(ONLY ONE MEASUREMENT TAKEN PER DAY AT 0900 HOURS LOCAL) hrs from.....station.

38. Any remarks on satellites, rockets, research balloons, comets, meteorites etc. relevant to the sighting. PAGEOS 1 COULD BE VIEWED AFTER MAX ELEV AT 0154 (L) AT THIS TIME, AZIMUTH OF PAGEOS 1 WAS 253° AND ELEV OF 27° HEADING 182°

39. When an aircraft is a possible identification, include radar trace if available, and ascertain which of the aircraft lights were operating..... N/A

40. The cause (or likely cause) of the sighting can*/cannot* be determined.

41. The object reported ~~probably was~~ ^{POSSIBLY} */may have been* (delete as required) SOME SORT OF REFLECTION OR REFRACTION CAUSED BY THE FULL MOON WHICH WAS VERY CLOSE TO THE REPORTED POSITION OF THE U.F.O.

THE STAR, REGULUS, MAY HAVE BEEN A CONTRIBUTING FACTOR CAUSING THE SIGHTING OF THE U.F.O., BUT THIS SEEMS IMPROBABLE.

..... HQ 82 WING (Unit) Lindsay J. J. (Name)
..... 20 TH MARCH, 1973 (Date) Flt Off (Rank)



1957 FIRE

MAGNETIC ANGLE

OBSERVER

+ 114 (M) CRU

11 DEC 72

SIGHTING # 7

DONCASTER MR & MRS K. TYLER
VIC

DEPAR (DAFI)

HQSC

CINTELLO

580/1.1 (88)

17 APR 73

40-12
5/6/1/AIR(38)
DATED 23 MAR 73

REPORTS OF UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTINGS

Enclosed for your records is a copy of a letter from this Department to Mr. K. Tyler, in answer to report of an unusual aerial sighting.

ENCLOSURE: Copy of letter to Mr. K. Tyler

M. Greiton

M. GREITON

FUG OFF 12-2 2408

S80/1/ (BA)

13 APR 1973

Mr K. Tyler
21 Harcourt Street
DONCASTER VIC 3108

Dear Sir,

With reference to the report of an unusual aerial sighting on 10th December, 1972, submitted by yourself and your wife, we regret that positive determination of the cause has not been possible. In the opinion of the investigating team however, the most probable cause was the sun reflecting from two small aircraft operating from a nearby airfield.

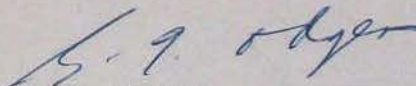
The time-lag between the date of the sighting and submission of the report has precluded information relating to civil aircraft being obtained. Quite a number of privately owned small aircraft, however, are known to operate out of Lilydale airfield, and two of these aircraft flying in formation, is thought to be the cause of the sighting. The movement of the lights could be attributed to the aircraft changing positions and the apparent speed combined with the disappearance of one of these lights was probably due to the change in its reflective angle.

Normally, logical explanations are available for unusual aerial sightings including; military and civil aircraft movements, meteorological phenomena, meteorites and space debris entering the earth's atmosphere and unusual astronomical observations.

In this particular instance from your description, the position of Lilydale airfield and the activities of light aircraft from that field are deemed to be the most logical explanation at this stage.

We thank you for your report and interest in this matter.

Yours faithfully,



(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

F
yplap
DAK
13 Apr 73



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

TELEPHONE: 69 0550

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"AIRCOMMAND, MELBOURNE"

IN REPLY QUOTE 5/6/1/Air(38)

~~DAFI~~
Department of Air (DAFI)

DEPT. O
580-1-1
DAFI
8-3-73
HEADQUARTERS SUPPORT COMMAND
RAAF
VICTORIA BARRACKS
MELBOURNE SC1 VIC 3004

23 MAR 1973

REPORT ON UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

1. Attached is a report by Mr and Mrs K. Tyler of Doncaster VIC, concerning the sighting of an unusual bright light in December 1972.
2. The report was received at this Headquarters on 16th March 1973 and C Int O's comments appear on Page 5.

R.R. Roddy
(R.R. RODDY)
Squadron Leader
For Air Officer Commanding

Enclosure: 1. Report by J. and K. Tyler






Received 16/11/73

~~RESTRICTED~~

REPORT ON UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

Part I - Report by Observer

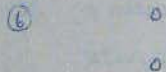
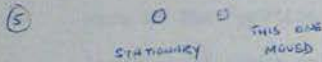
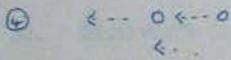
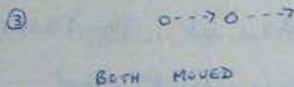
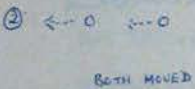
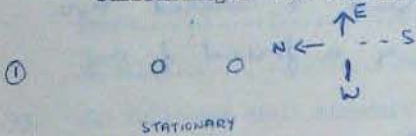
(As a preliminary to completing this form, the observer is invited to describe the sighting in his or her own manner, using either separate sheets or the back of this form.)

1. Name of observer JENNIFER & KEITH TYLER Age 42 & 41 respectively
2. Address of observer 31 HARLCOURT STREET
DONCASTER, VICTORIA 3108 Phone 848-3355 6030111
3. Occupation of observer Jennifer (wife & mother), Keith Director - Town & Country Planning Board
4. Date and time of start of observation SUNDAY 10th December 1972 - 4-0 pm
- How certain is the date? QUITE CERTAIN
checked by electric clock which could vary by 1 min
- How accurate is the time of start? 4-0 pm (Daylight Saving in operation)
5. Duration of observation 17 minutes
- How accurate is your estimate? Again checked clock.
6. Observer's location at time of sighting ON PATIO AT 00
31 HARLCOURT ST., DONCASTER 3108 
- How familiar is observer with this locality? very familiar
7. Weather conditions at time of observation FINE - HOT - CLOUDLESS SKY
8. Describe any aids/equipment used in the observation NONE
9. Where was object first observed? :
 - a. Relative to your surroundings East of Doncaster in direction of Donvale - Ringwood - Croydon
 - b. angle of elevation 
 - c. compass angle bearing
 - d. how accurate are these estimates?
10. What first attracted observer's attention? Just happened to be looking at the sky
11. If there was more than one light/object :
 - a. how many were there? TWO
 - b. in what formation were they? HORIZONTAL  (see sketch)
12. What was the colour of the light or object? BRIGHT WHITE

~~RESTRICTED~~

- 13. What was the brightness? (compare with full moon or common light source at a stated distance, eg ordinary street light at 100 yards)... LIKE A VERY BRIGHT STAR
- 14. What was the apparent size at nearest approach?:
 - a. relative to Venus or Moon.....
 - b. relative dimensions in inches at arm's length (about 20 inches from the eyes)... IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY
- 15. What were the bearing and elevation angles at nearest approach and how were these values assessed?.....
- 16. Was any method of propulsion obvious?..... NO
- 17. Describe any sound heard, including changes in pitch and intensity.....
NONE HEARD
- 18. What was the maximum and minimum angle of elevation (or height, if an estimate can be justified)?..... 70°
- 19. What was the maximum and minimum angular velocity (or speed, if an estimate can be justified)? If necessary, compare with the movement of familiar objects at stated distances.....
THEY MOVED IN UNISON RELATIVELY SLOWLY - SLOWER THAN PROPELLOR DRIVEN AERoplanES - BUT WHEN I SAW ONE DISAPPEAR - THE SPEED WAS TREMENDOUS - FAR FASTER THAN ANY JET FIGHTER
- 20. Give duration of any stationary phases... approx 2-3 minutes
- 21. Describe any deviations or manoeuvres... SEE SKETCH
- 22. Describe any trail of exhaust, vapour or light seen... NO TRAIL, VAPOUR SEEN ONLY LIGHT
- 23. Where was object last observed :
 - a. relative to your surroundings... Leading due East over Dimock - Ripwood - Craydon area
 - b. angle of elevation.....
 - c. compass angle bearing.....
EXTREMELY FAST
- 24. What was the manner of its disappearance?.....
- 25. Do you know of any associated physical evidence (such as fragments, photographs, scorching, ground indentations, residual magnetism or radioactivity etc)... No
- 26. State any training which enables observer to be reasonably certain of his/her ability to estimate angles and angular velocity... None
- 27. How many witness to the sighting?..... FIVE

28. Do you know of witnesses to similar sightings in the area?..... No
29. What natural phenomenon (or phenomena) would be nearest to explaining your observation?..... None
30. What are your main reasons for excluding this explanation?..... No other visible bodies
No other visible clouds - no visible aeroplanes - only the sun. The two objects were the only things visible & they moved
31. Please sketch the light/object with all details. If appropriate, in a sketch position and/or movement of object in relation to your observations surroundings. Use back of form, if needed. calculated manner



⑦ - One we lost sight of
The second disappeared at great speed in easterly direction

Signature..... J. I. Tyler

Date..... 21. 12. 1972

On Sunday, 11th December, between 3.55pm & 4pm
my husband was standing on the patio of our house
at 21 Harcourt St., Doncaster. He called to me
to look at these lights in the clear cloudless sky.
As it was a hot, very bright day it took me
about 60 seconds to follow where he was pointing
& then I saw the two brilliant lights - looking out
eastwards from our property - in a horizontal
position. I then checked the time & called two
of my children - both teenagers & a friend of my
daughter's - who also saw them.

The movements of the lights are described
over the page.

There was no noise that we could hear.

For several days afterwards, at the same
time, I looked for these lights again but did
not see anything.

J. Tyler

55 pm + 4-0
to
K
K

~~RESTRICTED~~

Part 2 - Unit Evaluation

32. The following military aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time :

A/C type.....(1).....NONE.....(2).....(3)
Heading.....T.....T.....T
Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000 ft
Speed.....K.....K.....K
ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

33. The following civil aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time :

MILITARY CONTROLLER AT TULLA ADVISED THAT FLIGHT INFORMATION IS HELD ONLY FOR 4 MONTHS BEFORE BEING DESTROYED, SO NO INFO AVAILABLE.

A/C type.....(1).....(2).....(3)
Heading.....T.....T.....T
Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000 ft
Speed.....K.....K.....K
ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

* Give location of nearest ATD or ATA.

34. Observer's Location : Latitude.....2748S.....Longitude.....14506E

35. Give bearing and elevation of any planets and major stars that were in that portion of the sky at that time. By day, give location of Venus only.....VENUS 265° 042° VIS. MAG. -3 AT 1600 EAST

36. A meteorological balloon was released fromLAVERTON..... at.....0500.....Z. Colour.....-.....Weight.....-.....gm
Radio-sonde **/ radar ** : Candle **/ battery ** (**delete as required)
General wind profile.....2000' 170/10 3000' 210/10 5000' 220/26 7000' 260/22
10000 250/40
Maximum height tracked.....,000 ft at.....Z
Was it known to have burst? -

37. The first significant temperature inversion was of44.....°C at4000.....ft, measured at.....0001.....Z hrs from.....TULLA.....station. *MET. SAY THAT EFFECTS FROM THIS INVERSION WOULD BE EXPERIENT SMALL DURING THE HIGHER TEMPERATURES AROUND 0500Z*

38. Any remarks on satellites, rockets, research balloons, comets, meteorites etc. relevant to the sighting.....NONE.....

39. When an aircraft is a possible identification, include radar trace

~~RESTRICTED~~

if available, and ascertain which of the aircraft lights were
operating..... *N/A*

40. The cause (or likely cause) of the sighting ~~can~~*/cannot* be determined.

41. The object reported probably was*/may have been* (delete as required)
..... *UNKNOWN*

Investigation of this belated report has been difficult because of the elapsed time between sighting and reporting. Although a temperature inversion was recorded in the morning (see para 37) met authorities say that it is unlikely the inversion would survive the afternoon's higher temperatures. The cause of this sighting therefore is unknown, but there are similarities to the sighting reported in Burwood Road by Mr & Mrs Costello on 13th December.

..... *1465C* (Unit) *R. R. Rood* (Name)

..... *23 MAR 73* (Date) *SNR FOR* (Rank)

24 FEB 78

SIGHTING #6

LEONGATHA
VIC

MR. P. J. SANDERS

580/1/1 Pt 21 (7A)

23 MAR 1973

Mr R.J. Sanders
Duncans Road
LEONGATHA SOUTH VIC 3953

Dear Sir,

With reference to your report of an unusual aerial sighting on the 24th February 1973, it has been determined that the most probable cause was a sighting of either the star CAPELLA, or the planet SATURN.

During the time of sighting, Capella was located on a bearing of 345° T at an elevation of 010° and a magnitude of β , and Saturn was on a bearing of 330° T, elevation 032° and magnitude β . The apparent red and green colour change is a common astronomical phenomenon which is attributable to atmospheric density variations and is often observed when an object is sighted low on the horizon through a polluted atmosphere.

We trust that this determination satisfactorily explains the phenomenon that you saw, and we thank you for your interest.



(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

Handwritten notes:
by [unclear]
DAM
27 Mar 73

580/1/1 P-21 (72)

28 MAR 73

DEPAIR (SAFE)

HOSC

CINTEL

Your 5/6/1/AIR (31)
of 20 MAR 73

REPORTS OF UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTINGS

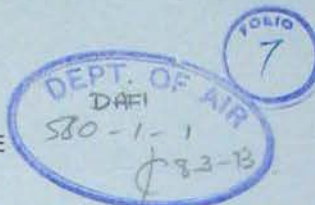
Enclosed for your records is a copy of a letter from DEPAIR to MRS R. J. Sanders in reply to her report of an unusual aerial sighting.

M. Emmert

M. CRETTON FNA RFF IR-3 J+2



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE



TELEPHONE: 69 0550

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"AIRCOMMAND, MELBOURNE"

HEADQUARTERS SUPPORT COMMAND
RAAF
VICTORIA BARRACKS
MELBOURNE SC1 VIC 3004

IN REPLY QUOTE 5/6/1/Air(37)

20 MAR 1973

~~DAFI~~
Department of Air (DAFI)

UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTINGS

The accompanying report of an unusual aerial sighting by Mr R.J. Sanders of Leongatha VIC has been examined by C Int O at this Headquarters. Comments as to a probable explanation of the object sighted are contained on Page 5, "Unit Evaluation", and the report is forwarded for information.

R.R. Roddy
(R.R. RODDY)
Squadron Leader
For Air Officer Commanding

✓ Enclosure: 1. Report by Mr R.J. Sanders, Duncan's Rd Leongatha



Received 16 MAR 73 R

~~REPORT FORM~~

REPORT ON UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

Part I - Report by Observer

(As a preliminary to completing this form, the observer is invited to describe the sighting in his or her own manner, using either separate sheets or the back of this form.)

1. Name of observer *Richard J. Linder* age *65*
2. Address of observer *Lumbans Rd. Longatha South 3953*
..... Phone *Inverloch 255*
3. Occupation of observer *Farmer*
4. Date and time of start of observation.....
How certain is the date?.....
How accurate is the time of start?.....
5. Duration of observation.....
How accurate is your estimate?.....
6. Observer's location at time of sighting.....
.....
How familiar is observer with this locality?.....
7. Weather conditions at time of observation.....
.....
8. Describe any aids/equipment used in the observation.....
.....
9. Where was object first observed? :
a. Relative to your surroundings.....
.....
b. angle of elevation.....
c. compass angle bearing.....
d. how accurate are these estimates?.....
10. What first attracted observer's attention?.....
.....
11. If there was more than one light/object :
a. how many were there?.....
b. in what formation were they?.....
12. What was the colour of the light or object?.....

~~REPORT FORM~~

Somewhere around 9:30 pm on the evening of 24 Feb 73 I noticed a light about 5 degrees above the Strzelecki Range which is some 12 or 15 miles distant from our home. The light seemed to be too near to be a star & too prominent to be a plane light as it was clearly not on our side of the Strzeleckies. After watching for a few minutes I decided that it was stationary & although it appeared to be basically just a light it seemed to show red & green every few seconds.

I then obtained my binoculars (not meant for night work) through which the subject looked just like an ordinary spangled star. The binoculars however left no doubt about the red & green colours which were coming in regularly although not instantaneously. The red & green lights in turn emerged through the "plain" light & then faded, the complete cycle taking a few seconds only.

When I called three other people to have a look at the light the remark was at once made that "it is changing colour". We watched it for half an hour or more & then noticed that it was "going down".

It seemed to be descending as it moved away bearing slightly to the west from ^{our} line of sight & took less than a minute to move out of our view beyond the ranges. Our home is about a mile South of the point where the Beard Creek road joins the Snowlock - Longgatta road. Reference to a road map seems to confirm that our line of sight to this stationary "light" would go through the town of Loch on the 5th Gippsland Highway.

Two or three months ago from the same position at home & about the same time in the evening or perhaps a bit later, I watched a similar light for about 20 min. It was stationary & in the direction of the junction of the Bars & South Gippsland Highways, which was still watching it took off bearing northerly & disappearing on a beam which could have taken it to the point where the 24 Feb sighting was headed.

? Helicopter

J. Sanders
5/3/73.

What was the source at a yards)..... What was the a. relatively b. relatively from t what were how were Was any Describe 14. 15. 16. 17.

to evening
but
on

13. What was the brightness? (compare with full moon or common light source at a stated distance, eg ordinary street light at 100 yards).....
14. What was the apparent size at nearest approach?:
 - a. relative to Venus or Moon.....
 - b. relative dimensions in inches at arm's length (about 20 inches from the eyes).....
15. What were the bearing and elevation angles at nearest approach and how were these values assessed?.....
16. Was any method of propulsion obvious?.....
17. Describe any sound heard, including changes in pitch and intensity
18. What was the maximum and minimum angle of elevation (or height, if an estimate can be justified)?.....
19. What was the maximum and minimum angular velocity (or speed, if an estimate can be justified)? If necessary, compare with the movement of familiar objects at stated distances
20. Give duration of any stationary phases.....
21. Describe any deviations or manoeuvres.....
22. Describe any trail of exhaust, vapour or light seen.....
23. Where was object last observed :
 - a. relative to your surroundings.....
 - b. angle of elevation.....
 - c. compass angle bearing.....
24. What was the manner of its disappearance?.....
25. Do you know of any associated physical evidence (such as fragments, photographs, scorching, ground indentations, residual magnetism or radioactivity etc).....
26. State any training which enables observer to be reasonably certain of his/her ability to estimate angles and angular velocity.....
27. How many witness to the sighting?.....

- 28. Do you know of witnesses to similar sightings in the area?.....
- 29. What natural phenomenon (or phenomena) would be nearest to explaining your observation?.....
- 30. What are your main reasons for excluding this explanation?.....
.....
- 31. Please sketch the light/object with all details. If appropriate, sketch position and/or movement of object in relation to your surroundings. Use back of form, if needed.

Signature..... Date.....

Part 2 - Unit Evaluation

32. The following military aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time :

A/C type.....(1).....*NIL*.....(2).....(3)

Heading.....T.....T.....T

Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000 ft

Speed.....K.....K.....K

ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

33. The following civil aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time :

A/C type.....(1).....*NIL*.....(2).....(3)

Heading.....T.....T.....T

Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000 ft

Speed.....K.....K.....K

ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

* Give location of nearest ATD or ATA.

34. Observer's Location : Latitude.....*38.375*.....Longitude.....*145.44E*

35. Give bearing and elevation of any planets and major stars that were in that portion of the sky at that time. By day, give location of Venus only. *At 2200 EAST*

{	<i>CAPELLA 345° 010' 175 MAG 0</i>
	<i>SATURN 328° 032' 175 MAG 0</i>
	<i>ALDEBARAN 320° 033' 176 MAG 1</i>

36. A meteorological balloon was released from*N/A*.....

at.....Z. Colour.....Weight.....gm

Radio-sonde**/radar** : Candle**/battery** (**delete as required)

General wind profile.....

Maximum height tracked.....,000 ft at.....Z

Was it known to have burst?

37. The first significant temperature inversion was of*N/A*.....°C atft, measured at.....Z hrs from.....station.

38. Any remarks on satellites, rockets, research balloons, comets, meteorites etc. relevant to the sighting.....*NONE*.....

39. When an aircraft is a possible identification, include radar trace

if available, and ascertain which of the aircraft lights were

operating..... *NA*

40. The cause (or likely cause) of the sighting can*/cannot* be determined.

41. The object reported ~~probably was~~*/may have been* (delete as required)

..... *CAPELLA*

Because of the duration of this observation, aircraft, met balloons, satellites, rockets, comet and meteorites have been disregarded as possible causes of this sighting. A bearing from Mr Sanders home through the town of Loch would make his line of observation ^{355°?} _{240°} Within a few degrees of this line at the quoted time were both Capella and Saturn - with Capella being the probable cause. The suspicion that the object probably was an astronomical object is strengthened by Mr Sanders own words "we noticed it was going down".

The apparent red and green colour changes can probably be attributed to atmospheric variation, more particularly when it is considered that the observers sighted the object low down on the horizon, through a fairly polluted atmosphere.

[There may be a follow up to this report. I received a call from a person in the Bonthaggi area who saw something 'within the past few weeks' which could tie in with this sighting.]

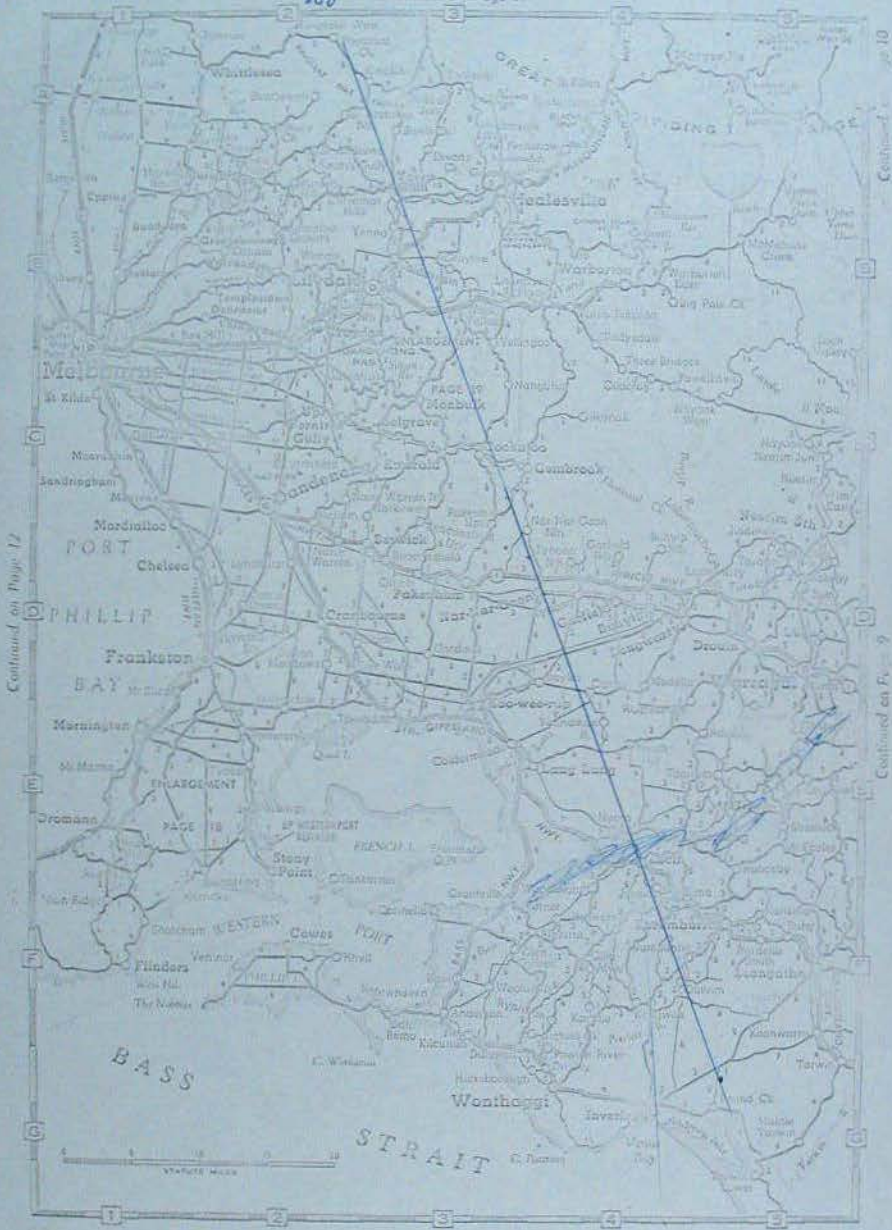
..... *MGSC* (Unit) *R. R. Rodd* (Name)

..... *20 MAR 73* (Date) *SAN TOR* (Rank)



THIS PAGE IS REPRODUCED FROM A BADLY FADED OR ILLEGIBLE SOURCE.
 SCANNING THIS ITEM AT A HIGHER RESOLUTION WILL NOT IMPROVE ITS LEGIBILITY.

610 Continued on Page 11



Continued on Page 12

Continued on Page 10

Continued on Page 9

8

10 MAR 78

SIGHTING # 5

CHARLESTOWN MISS. 1 COPAS
N SW

580/11, P. 21 (68)

23 MAR 73

DEPAIR (DAFI)

HOWLM

F10

Your 5/2/AIR (B)

OF 15 MAR 73

REPORTS OF UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTINGS

Enclosed for your records is a copy of a letter from this Department to Mrs I. Copas in reply to her report of an unusual aerial sighting

M. Cretton

M. CRETTON F10 OFF IR2 J108

6A

6B

580/1/1 Pt21 (6D)

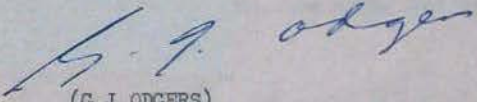
Mrs I. Copas,
1 Birrong Place,
CHARLESTOWN NSW 2290

Dear Mrs Copas,

With reference to your letter dated 11th April, we are pleased to report that a check of civil aviation records show that a Qantas aircraft arrived at Sydney from Honolulu on 7th April at 0630 hrs. This indicates that your observation on that morning would have been of that aircraft.

Thank you again for your interest.

Yours faithfully,



(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

Handwritten:
MIDAKE
18 Apr 73

580/1/1 Pt 21 (6A)

672C
1 Berrington Place
Charlestown.

11-4-73.

To

Director of Public Relations

Dept. Air,

Dear Mr Odgers,

I am in receipt.

of your letter dated 27-3-73 and appreciate very much, the time you have spent on my report.

I agree, your conclusion that it would seem to be DF 151 arriving from Tahiti, seems an accurate assumption and I thought I should write to say my son & I again saw what we agreed was a similar object on 7-4-73 at 0608 hrs. (38 minutes later than our sighting on 10-3-73). The effect was the same - "cloud of vapour" but no trail across the sky.

I do not know the time schedule for
Qantas A/C but thought I should write
and tell you because if this second "flight"
was approx. 38 minutes later arriving at
Sydney, then your department would have
conclusive proof about all this.

Thanking you for your letter.
S. Looper.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF AIR
RUSSELL OFFICES
CANBERRA



A.C.T.
2600

6A

580/1/1 Pt 21 (6A)

Mrs I. Copas
1 Birrong Place
CHARLESTOWN NSW 2290

Dear Mrs Copas,

With reference to your report on an unusual aerial sighting on the 10th March 1973, it has been determined that the cause was a QANTAS aircraft (QF 151) from Tahiti en route to Sydney.

Normally, logical explanations are available for reported sightings, and investigation of your report covered RAAF and Civil aircraft movements, planet/star positions, meteorological phenomena and space vehicle movement. From these theories, only two were applicable. These were the position of the planet Venus (azimuth 095, elevation 10°, magnitude -3) and the position of the QANTAS aircraft. From the subsequent telephone conversation between Sqn Ldr Egle and yourself the probability of Venus being the cause was discarded.

From your description, the "shiny metallic silver" object corresponds to the aircraft, and the "cloud of vapour" behind the object was a condensation trail caused by the exhaust gases of the jet engines meeting atmospheric conditions suitable to produce this phenomena. At the time of sighting, QF 151 was flying at approximately 38,000 feet altitude on a track of 237 M and about 95 nautical miles from your position.

We trust that this explanation is satisfactory, and thank you for your interest.

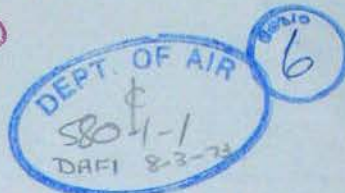
(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

L
90/151
JAH
23 Mar 73

RESTRICTED



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE



TELEPHONE: Newcastle 65 1221

Headquarters
RAAF Base
WILLIAMTOWN NSW 2314

15th March 1973

IN REPLY QUOTE 5/2/Air(18)


DAFI
The Secretary
Department of Air
Russell Offices
CANBERRA ACT 2600

For Information:

Headquarters Operational Command

REPORT ON UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

1. Attached is a report on an unusual aerial sighting, reported on the morning of 10th March 1973. One of the observers, Mrs Isabel Copas, a very level headed, mature woman, was interviewed at her home on the afternoon of 12th March. Mrs Copas and the other observer, her 15 year old son Barry, are both keen amateur astronomers. They had an excellent telescope, a Tasco 6T, fitted with a 12.5 lense, at their disposal.
2. The sighting was made at approximately 0530 hours on 10th March, the household having been woken by the earth tremor approximately 20 minutes earlier. Mrs Copas and her son were on their back porch watching the dawn break, and noticed a bright light, metallic silver in colour, just below a patch of brightly coloured cloud. They watched through binoculars at first, then brought out the telescope. The object appeared crescent shaped (see sketch) and emitted a stream of vapour. It appeared to be moving at great speed, although there was little change in position. The time of sighting was checked on the lounge room clock. The object was visible for about 6 minutes, and finally faded from view as the sun rose.
3. There were no civil or military aircraft active at the time of the sighting. Venus should have been visible, bearing 95° at an angular elevation of 75° approximately. However, when questioned on the position of Venus at the time of the observation, Mrs Copas had been unable to locate it. No temperature inversion was recorded over the period, no satellites were visible in the general direction of the sighting, and no meteorological phenomena were reported to coincide with the sighting.
4. Because of the proximity of Venus to the approximate position of the sighting it is most likely that the sighting was in fact Venus, distorted by some extreme meteorological condition.
5. Forwarded for your further investigation.


(A.F. BLACKBURN)
Flight Lieutenant
for Officer T/Commanding

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED



2240



g/p [Jolan] [Solim]

532
563
+ 31

2218
2265
+ 47

2825
2902
+ 77

39 36
39 35
0 -1

REPORT ON UNUSUAL AIR

Part I - Report by

(As a preliminary to completing this form, the observer should complete this section in his or her own manner, using the information available to him or her at the time of this sighting.)

MASTER B.A.

- Name of observer... MRS. J.S.
- Address of observer... I. BIRA
- Occupation of observer... HOM
- Date and time of start of observation...
How certain is the date?...
- Duration of observation... 6...
How accurate is your estimate of duration?...
- Observer's location at time of sighting...

REPORT ON UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

Part I - Report by Observer

(As a preliminary to completing this form, the observer is invited to describe the sighting in his or her own manner, using either separate sheets or the back of this form.)

MASTER BARRY COPAS 15

1. Name of observer... MRS. ISABEL COPAS Age.....
2. Address of observer... 1 BIRRONG PLACE CHARLESTOWN Phone 433904 433999
3. Occupation of observer... HOME DUTIES 0530 HRS
4. Date and time of start of observation... 10 MAR 73
How certain is the date?... QUITE
How accurate is the time of start?... CHECKED WITH CLOCK
5. Duration of observation... 6 MINUTES
How accurate is your estimate?... REASONABLY ACCURATE
6. Observer's location at time of sighting... ABOVE ADDRESS
How familiar is observer with this locality?... 11 YEARS
RESIDENCE IN CHARLESTOWN
7. Weather conditions at time of observation... CLEAR EXCEPT FOR VERY LIGHT COASTAL CLOUD
8. Describe any aids/equipment used in the observation... TASCOS 6T TELESCOPE WITH 12.5 LENSE
9. Where was object first observed:
 - a. Relative to your surroundings... DUE EAST
 - b. Angle of elevation... 80° 10°
 - c. Compass angle bearing... 90°
 - d. How accurate are these estimates?... REASONABLY ACCURATE
10. What first attracted observer's attention?... WATCHING CLOUD COLOURS AT SUNRISE
11. If there was more than one ~~light~~ object:
 - a. How many were there?.....
 - b. In what formation were they?..... METALIC
12. What was the colour of the light or object?... SHINY SILVER COLOUR
13. What was the brightness? (Compare with full moon or common light source at a stated distance, eg, ordinary street light at 100 yards)
STREET LIGHT AT 100 YARDS
14. What was the apparent size at nearest approach:
 - a. Relative to Venus or Moon.....
 - b. Relative dimensions in inches at arm's length (about 20 inches from the eyes)... INCH LONG PIECE OF LEAD INCLUDING VAPOUR
15. What were the bearing and elevation angles at nearest approach and how were these values assessed?... REMAINED IN SAME RELATIVE POSITION AS FOR 9. ABOVE
16. Was any method of propulsion obvious?... CLOUD OF VAPOUR FROM OBJECT

6000 60 433 1010 /17. Describe

- 17. Describe any sound heard, including changes in pitch and intensity
..... NONE
- 18. What was the maximum and minimum angle of elevation (or height, if
an estimate can be justified)?..... N/A
- 19. What was the maximum and minimum angular velocity (or speed, if an
estimate can be justified)? If necessary, compare with the move-
ment of familiar objects at stated distances. COULD NOT ESTIMATE
BUT GAVE IMPRESSION OF VERY RAPID MOVEMENT
- 20. Give duration of any stationary phases..... N/A
- 21. Describe any deviations or manoeuvres..... N/A
- 22. Describe any trail of exhaust, vapour or light seen. VAPOUR,
APPARENTLY THICK, BILLOWING BEHIND
- 23. Where was the object last observed:
 - a. Relative to your surroundings... REMAINED IN SAME POSITION
 - b. Angle of elevation..... 80°
 - c. Compass angle bearing..... 90° moved south
- 24. What was the manner of its disappearance?... FADED FROM VIEW
- 25. Do you know of any associated physical evidence (such as fragments,
photographs, scorching, ground indentations, residual magnetism or
radioactivity etc)..... NONE
- 26. State any training which enables observer to be reasonably certain
of his/her ability to estimate angles and angular velocity. BOTH
WITNESSES KEEN AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS
- 27. How many witnesses to the sighting?... TWO
- 28. Do you know of witnesses to similar sightings in the area?.....
..... NO
- 29. What natural phenomenon (or phenomena) would be nearest to explaining
your observation?..... NONE
- 30. What are your main reasons for excluding this explanation?.....
..... N/A
- 31. Please sketch the light/object with all details. If appropriate,
sketch position and/or movement of object in relation to your
surroundings. Use back of form, .



[MORE OR LESS TO SCALE]

Signature.....

Date.....

Part 2 - Unit Evaluation

32. The following military aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:
 A/C type.....*NIL*.....(1).....(2).....(3)
 Heading.....*T*.....*T*.....*T*
 Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000 ft
 Speed.....*K*.....*K*.....*K*
 ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs
33. The following civil aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:
 A/C type.....*NIL*.....(1).....*QF 151*.....(2).....*PANAMA*.....(3)
 Heading.....*T*.....*247*.....*T*.....*247*.....*T*
 Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000 ft
 Speed.....*K*.....*K*.....*K*
 ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....*51 0605*.....hrs.....*51 0620*.....hrs
- *Give location of nearest ATD or ATA.
34. Observer's Location: Latitude.....*32° 59'*.....Longitude.....*151° 40'*.....
35. Give bearing and elevation of any planets and major stars that were in that portion of the sky at the time. By day, give location of Venus only.....*VENUS - BEARING 95° ANGULAR ELEVATION 28° APPROX 010*.....
36. A meteorological balloon was released from.....*N/A*.....
 at.....Z.....Colour.....Weight.....gm
 Radio-sonde**/radar**; Candle**/battery** (**delete as required)
 General wind profile.....
 Maximum height tracked.....,000 ft at.....Z
 Was it known to have burst?.....
37. The first significant temperature inversion was of.....*NIL*.....°C at
ft, measured at.....Z hrs from.....
station.
38. Any remarks on satellites, rockets, research balloons, comets, meteorites etc relevant to the sighting.....*NONE RELEVANT*.....
39. When an aircraft is a possible identification, include radar trace if available, and ascertain which of the aircraft lights were operating
*N/A*.....
40. The cause (or likely cause) of the sighting can*/cannot* be determined.
41. The object reported probably was*/may have been* (delete as required).
 ..*VENUS DISTORTED BY SOME METEOROLOGICAL CONDITION*.....

.....*HB WLM*.....(Unit).....*A.F. BLACKBURN*.....(Name)
*15 MARCH 1973*.....(Date).....*FLT LT*.....(Rank)

14 JAN 73

SIGHTING #4

SURFERS PARADISE
(L)

M² I.C. ANEMP

580/1/1 Pt 21 (5A)

21 MAR 1973

Mrs I.G. Alemp
10 The Esplanade
SURFERS PARADISE QLD 4217

Dear Madam,

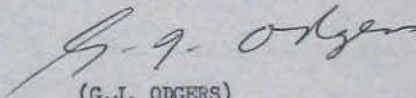
With reference to your report of an unusual aerial sighting on the 14th January 1973, we regret that positive determination of the cause has not been possible, although in the opinion of the investigating team, the most probable cause was a privately operated helicopter.

Your report coincided with another report submitted from Coolangatta, and from these descriptions, an itinerant helicopter, which was not under surveillance by the Department of Civil Aviation, is the most logical explanation.

On the evening in question, the airport control personnel at Coolangatta ceased operations at 8.30 PM, and therefore no activity after that time is recorded. Additionally, aircraft may legally operate in the Gold Coast area below 3,000 feet altitude without being under the control of Brisbane Air Traffic Control Centre. The low altitude at which the "aircraft" was sighted would be due to the adverse weather conditions prevalent at the time, and the light source was probably from the helicopter's searchlight.

We trust that this explanation is satisfactory and thank you for your interest.

Yours faithfully,



(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

Handwritten note:
Isplop
DAM
20 Mar 73

58011. P. 2. (58)

22 MAR 73

DEPAR (DAFI)

HOAMB

82WC INTELO

REPORTS OF UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTINGS

Enclosed, for your records, is a copy of a letter in reply to a report of an unusual aerial sighting which was initially investigated by you.

ENCLOSURE: Copy of a letter to Mrs I. C. Alemp of
Misfers Paradise.

M. CRETTON

M. CRETTON FIC OFF IR-2 JHd

025 362888

5

580-1-1



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

TELEPHONE: Ipswich 803911 Ext 2503

Headquarters
RAAF Base
AMBERLEY QLD 4305

IN REPLY QUOTE B2W/5/9/Air (111)

15th March 1973

Department of Air (DAFI)

For Information:

Headquarters Operational Command (Attn: CIO)

AMPLIFICATION OF UFO REPORT

- Reference:
- A. B2W/5/9/Air (105) dated 8th March 1973.
 - B. Telecom D/DAFI I-R and Flying Officer Egan 14th March 1973.

1. Further investigation reveals that the only known aircraft operating in the area, according to DCA records, was a DC-9 which departed COOLANGATTA at 2019K, bound for SYDNEY.
2. There is no record of helicopters operating in the area at the time of the sightings. DCA BRISBANE state that it would be most unlikely that unauthorised aircraft would be operating in the area, particularly considering the adverse weather conditions. Violent storms were present in the area.
3. Future investigations will contain more detail than reference A to this letter.

Paul T. Davison
 (P.T. DAVISON)
 Flying Officer
 For Officer Commanding

Refers also to sighting #3.



580/111(48)

DEPAR (DARI)

17 APR 72

HOAMB

BO N INTEND

Your SK/AIR(105)
dated 8 MAR 73.

REPORTS OF UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTINGS

Enclosed for your records is a copy
of a letter to Mr. R. Nicol in reply
to his report of an unusual aerial
sighting

M. GRETTON

M. GRETTON FIC OFF IR-2 2408

S80/1/1 (4A)

16 APR 1973

Mr R. Nicol
176 Wyong Street
KILLARNEY VALE NSW 2262

Dear Sir,

With reference to your report of two unusual sightings on 14th and 15th January 1973, we regret that positive determination of the causes of the sightings have not been possible. The most probable causes, however, were:

- a. a privately owned helicopter operating below controlled airspace, and
- b. unusual light reflections.

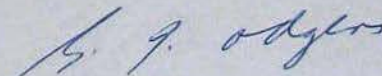
Your report coincided with another report submitted from Surfers Paradise, and from these descriptions an itinerant helicopter, which was not under surveillance by the Department of Civil Aviation, is the most logical explanation.

On the evening in question, the airport control personnel at Coolangatta ceased operations at 8.30 pm and no activity, therefore, was recorded after that time. Additionally, aircraft may legally operate in the Gold Coast area below 3,000 feet altitude without being under the control of Brisbane Air Traffic Control Centre.

In the opinion of the investigating team the most probable explanation for the second sighting was moonlight being reflected from pools of water lying adjacent to the road. The varying distances of the pools of water from the roadside would account for the staggered effect of the lights.

We trust that this explanation is satisfactory and thank you for your interest.

-Yours faithfully,


(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

A
4p Capt
DAH
13 Apr 73

Royal Australian Air Force A273 Feb 70 MEMO		For use within the RAAF only Write or print clearly	OUR FILE 82W 5/9/Air	FOLIO 105
FROM HQAMB	DATE 8 MAR 73		REFERENCES H85C 3/6/Air (27) 11 Aug 72	
TO SECRETARY DEPARTMENT OF AIR	ATTENTION (DAFI)			
SUBJECT UFO REPORTS				

FORWARDED ARE TWO COPIES OF UFO REPORTS.



SIGNATURE <i>Paul T. Davison</i>	PRINTED NAME P. T. DAVISON	RANK FLG OFF	APPOINTMENT W10	PHONE EXT 2023
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RESTRICTED

REPORT ON UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

Part I - Report by Observer

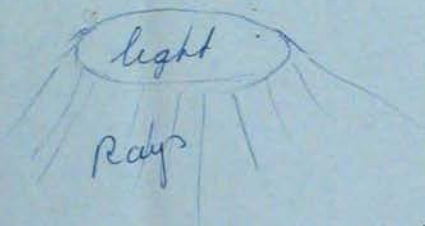
(As a preliminary to completing this form, the observer is invited to describe the sighting in his or her own manner, using either separate sheets or the back of this form.)

1. Name of observer. *Mrs. I. G. ALEMP* Age *adult*
2. Address of observer. *19 The Esplanade*
Surfus Paradise Phone *390033*
3. Occupation of observer. *Housewife*
4. Date and time of start of observation. *14-1-73*
How certain is the date? ... *Positive*
How accurate is the time of start. *between 8-45 & 9-15 PM*
5. Duration of observation. *4 minutes*
How accurate is your estimate? ... *Reasonable*
6. Observer's location at time of sighting. *Balcony*
on 6th floor
How familiar is observer with this locality? *Have lived here for 2 1/2 years*
7. Weather conditions at time of observation. *Stormy conditions but dry at time*
8. Describe any aids/equipment used in the observation.
nil
9. Where was object first observed:
(a) Relative to your surroundings. *First heard inside flat like beat of helicopter*
(b) angle of elevation.
(c) compass angle bearing.
(d) how accurate are these estimates.
10. What first attracted observer's attention?
11. If there was more than one light/object:
(a) how many were there? ... *1 light*
(b) in what formation were they?

RESTRICTED

12. What was the colour of the light or object?... *yellow*.....
13. What was the brightness? (compare with full moon or common light source at a stated distance, e.g. ordinary street light at 100 yards) *less than street light*.....
14. What was the apparent size at nearest approach:
 - (a) relative to Venus or Moon.....
 - (b) relative dimensions in inches at arm's length (about 20 inches from the eyes).....
15. What were the bearing and elevation angles at nearest approach and how were these values assessed?.....
16. Was any method of propulsion obvious?... *etc*.....
17. Describe any sound heard, including changes in pitch and intensity.....
18. What was the maximum and minimum angle of elevation (or height, if an estimate can be justified)? *250 ft. high*.....
19. What was the maximum and minimum angular velocity (or speed, if an estimate can be justified)? If necessary, compare with the movement of familiar objects at stated distances. *about same speed as light aircraft in up & down motion*.....
20. Give duration of any stationary phases..... *NIL*.....
21. Describe any deviations or manoeuvres..... *NIL*.....
22. Describe any trail of exhaust, vapour or light seen. *NIL*.....
23. Where was object last observed:
 - (a) relative to your surroundings. *travelling in*.....
 - (b) angle of elevation *north by direction*.....
 - (c) compass angle bearing.....
24. What was the manner of its disappearance?.....
25. Do you know of any associated physical evidence (such as fragments, photographs, scorching, ground indentations, residual magnetism or radioactivity etc).....

- 26. State any training which enables observer to be reasonably certain of his/her ability to estimate angles and angular velocity.... *NIL*.....
- 27. How many witness to the sighting?.... *NIL from my point*.....
- 28. Do you know of witnesses to similar sightings in the area?.....
..... *YES*.....
- 29. What natural phenomenon (or phenomena) would be nearest to explaining your observation?.... *night flying Helicopter*.....
- 30. What are your main reasons for excluding this explanation?.....
.....
- 31. Please sketch the light/object with all details. If appropriate, sketch position and/or movement of object in relation to your surroundings. Use back of form, if needed.



Signature... *J. J. Alamp*..... Date... *3-2-73*.....

Part 2 - Unit Evaluation

32. The following military aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C type... *NIL*(1).....(2).....(3)
 Heading.....T.....T.....T
 Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000ft
 Speed.....K.....K.....K
 ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

33. The following civil aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C type... *NIL APPLICABLE*(2).....(3)
 Heading.....T.....T.....T
 Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000ft
 Speed.....K.....K.....K
 ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

* Give location of nearest ATD or ATA.

34. Observer's Location: Latitude *28 00 30 S* Longitude *153 25 40 E*

35. Give bearing and elevation of any planets and major stars that were in that portion of the sky at that time. By day, give location of Venus only.....

36. A meteorological balloon was released from... *N/A direction*
 at.....Z Colour.....Weight.....gm
 Radio-sonde**/radar** : Candle**/battery** (**delete as required)
 General wind profile.....
 Maximum height tracked.....,000 ft at.....Z
 Was it known to have burst?.....

37. The first significant temperature inversion was of.....°C atft, measured at.....Z hrs from.....station.

38. Any remarks on satellites, rockets, research balloons, comets, meteorites etc. relevant to the sighting..... *NIL*

39. When an aircraft is a possible identification, include radar trace if available, and ascertain which of the aircraft lights were operating.....

NIL AIRCRAFT

40. The cause (or likely cause) of the sighting ~~can~~*/cannot* be determined.

41. The object reported probably was*/may have been* (delete as required)

There had been a storm with heavy rain early in the evening

82 W

(Unit)

P. T. JAVISON

(Name)

8 MAR 73

(Date)

FLG OFF

(Rank)

39. When an aircraft is a possible identification, include radar trace if available, and ascertain which of the aircraft lights were operating.....

NIL AIRCRAFT

40. The cause (or likely cause) of the sighting ~~can~~ ^{can} /cannot^{*} be determined.

41. The object reported probably was ^{*}/may have been^{*} (delete as required)

No/H.

ch heavy rain

*Recom Amberly re more info.
blocks required from Koolangatha,
banangra, 2 light etc operators,
especially helicopters.*

14 APR 73

SB

AVISON (Name)

OFF (Rank)



14 ~~MAR~~ 73
JAN

SIGHTING # 3

COOLANGARRA
Q-LD

R. NICOL

REPORT ON UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

4

Part I - Report by Observer

(As a preliminary to completing this form, the observer is invited to describe the sighting in his or her own manner, using either separate sheets or the back of this form.)

1. Name of observer. Robert Nicol Age 23
2. Address of observer. 176 Wyong Rd
Killarney Vale 2262 N.S.W Gosford Phone 334107
3. Occupation of observer. Cashier
4. Date and time of start of observation. JAN 14-73. 9:30/9.40 pm
How certain is the date? DEFINITE
How accurate is the time of start? to within MINUTES
5. Duration of observation. 20-25 Minutes
How accurate is your estimate? CERTAIN to within MINUTES
6. Observer's location at time of sighting. PT DANGER
lookout Coolangatta, Qld.
How familiar is observer with this locality? quite familiar
7. Weather conditions at time of observation. No wind, overcast
skys, very calm
8. Describe any aids/equipment used in the observation. NONE
9. Where was object first observed:
a. Relative to your surroundings. Westerly OVER
Coolangatta Airport
b. Angle of elevation. (Q.A.D.) 0-10° RIGHT
c. Compass angle bearing. NOT KNOWN
d. How accurate are these estimates? quite certain
10. What first attracted observer's attention? BRILLIANCE OF LIGHT
11. If there was more than one light/object:
a. How many were there? N/A
b. In what formation were they? N/A
12. What was the colour of the light or object? White then Red
13. What was the brightness? (Compare with full moon or common light source at a stated distance, eg, ordinary street light at 100 yards)
White light as bright as a search light / Red light clear + bright abundance light at appx
14. What was the apparent size at nearest approach?
a. Relative to Venus or Moon. No object visible, only lights
b. Relative dimensions in inches at arm's length (about 20 inches from the eyes). NOT KNOWN
15. What were the bearing and elevation angles at nearest approach and how were these values assessed? SEE REPORT
16. Was any method of propulsion obvious? No

- 17. Describe any sound heard, including changes in pitch and intensity
None
- 18. What was the maximum and minimum angle of elevation (or height, if an estimate can be justified)?
Max. 0-10° App. Min. 30° App.
- 19. What was the maximum and minimum angular velocity (or speed, if an estimate can be justified)? If necessary, compare with the movement of familiar objects at stated distance.
Right Moved from stationary position to high speed
- 20. Give duration of any stationary phases.
Appx. 3 Minutes
- 21. Describe any deviations or manoeuvres.
Similar to Vortex looking
- 22. Describe any trail of exhaust, vapour or light seen.
None
- 23. Where was the object last observed:
a. Relative to your surroundings.
b. Angle of elevation.
c. Compass angle bearing.
(north) Above Surfers Paradise
0° (Mid sky)
NOT KNOWN?
- 24. What was the manner of its disappearance?
Gradual fading into distance
- 25. Do you know of any associated physical evidence (such as fragments, photographs, scorching, ground indentations, residual magnetism or radioactivity etc).
Was unable to go to position of landing
- 26. State any training which enables observer to be reasonably certain of his/her ability to estimate angles and angular velocity.
None
- 27. How many witnesses to the sighting?
Two
- 28. Do you know of witnesses to similar sightings in the area?
No
- 29. What natural phenomenon (or phenomena) would be nearest to explaining your observation?
A Helicopter
- 30. What are your main reasons for excluding this explanation?
No noise could be heard if it moved to quickly + Airport confirmed there were none in the area
- 31. Please sketch the light/object with all details. If appropriate, sketch position and/or movement of object in relation to your surroundings. Use back of form, SEE ATTACHED

Signature: *R. Nicol*

Date: FEB-11-1973

Part 2 - Unit Evaluation

32. The following military aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C type.... *NIL*(1).....(2).....(3)
Heading.....T.....T.....T
Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000ft
Speed.....K.....K.....K
ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

33. The following civil aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time:

A/C type.... *NIL APPLICABLE*(2).....(3)
Heading.....T.....T.....T
Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000ft
Speed.....K.....K.....K
ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

* Give location of nearest ATD or ATA.

34. Observer's Location: Latitude. *28 10 S* Longitude. *153 33 E*

35. Give bearing and elevation of any planets and major stars that were in that portion of the sky at that time. By day, give location of Venus only.....

36. A meteorological balloon was released from... *N/A*
at.....Z Colour..... *wrong direction* Weight..... gm
Radio-sonde **/radar **: Candle **/battery ** (**delete as required)
General wind profile.....
Maximum height tracked.....,000 ft at.....Z
Was it known to have burst?.....

37. The first significant temperature inversion was of.....°C at
.....ft, measured at.....Z hrs from.....
.....station.

38. Any remarks on satellites, rockets, research balloons, comets, meteorites etc, relevant to the sighting.....

39. When an aircraft is a possible identification, include radar trace if available, and ascertain which of the aircraft lights were operating.....

40. The cause (or likely cause) of the sighting can ^{*}/~~cannot~~^{*} be determined.

41. The object reported probably was ^{*}/~~may have been~~^{*} (delete as required)

?

82 W

(Unit)

P. T. DAVISON

(Name)

8 MAR 73

(Date)

FLG OFF

(Rank)

- 39. When an aircraft is a possible identification, include radar trace if available, and ascertain which of the aircraft lights were operating.....
- 40. The cause (or likely cause) of the sighting can ~~not~~ be determined.
- 41. The object reported probably was ~~not~~ /may have been (delete as required)

No/A

King AMB re more info on possible helicopter operations not included to Eagle Team.

14 MAR 78



A. T. JAYSON (Name)

LTJG (Rank)

On Sunday January 14 1973, I was attending a party at "Pacific Village" Greenmount, where I consumed one can of beer, at about 8.50pm a blackout occurred, + from observations it covered the entire odd coast.

After some twenty minutes, the chick I was with suggested we walk up to the harbor beam lighthouse, her girlfriend also came. so the three of us walked to the lighthouse. Upon arrival we watched the beam + walked around towards Rainbow Bay, we had gone some fifty yards, + we were leaning on a wire fence looking down on the old baths. I then glanced over my left shoulder and observed a light which appeared to be situated over Cookangatta airport, it appeared some four or five hundred feet above the ground. It was a large white light and resembled a search light, being in a stationary position scanning from ^{South} west to east, it was pointing directly east, at us. + stopped, it then faded out quickly. I then drew the chicks attention to it, a few seconds passed by and a red light began to flash in a position just a little to the right, this light was very bright but nothink like the ~~power~~ intensity of

the white light. It stayed in this stationary position for about three minutes. The light then began to move in a North Easterly direction out over Kirra beach, it began to gain altitude and speed as it progressed its speed became quite fast, faster than a commercial jet aeroplane having travelled some distance, it ~~was~~ slowed down and made movements similar to a yacht tacking, left then right + repeated this all movements were of the same distance. The light then changed course and headed towards Sunners Paradise, as it neared surfers its altitude and speed decreased, a further change of course was observed + the light moved down the coast (southward). Altitude + speed still decreasing, at about Currumbin altitude would have been no more than treetop level, it maintained the above pattern, till at a point only some miles from Kirra itself the object made a very slow landing on the beach, it stayed in this position as we maintained our observation for a few more minutes.

We then left Pt Danger and walked

through Rainbow Bay and up to the top of the hill at Greenmount, the light was still visible in the same position + still flashing. We then lost vision of the light as we moved down the hill, as a breakwater at the North end of the beach blocks all vision of Kirra.

We returned to our guest house and told no one, the three of us then stood on the balcony, a plane then passed overhead, going North, it was then decided to report the matter to the police, we left the "village" and walked down to the beach to see if we could see anything. Bronwyn (one of the chicks) noticed a red light high in the sky over Surfers. It was very dim + we watched it fade away as if heading North to Brisbane. We then proceeded to Coolangatta Police Station, we told the officer of our sighting, he immediately rang Coolangatta Airport, who confirmed that there were no helicopter based there or in the vicinity, he was also told that the ~~the~~ Friendship seen only minutes before.

was the only flight movement so far that night. The policeman told us he would go to Kirra + investigate as soon as a car became available (he was the only officer there at the time). We left things in his hands + told him we would return ~~later~~ later.

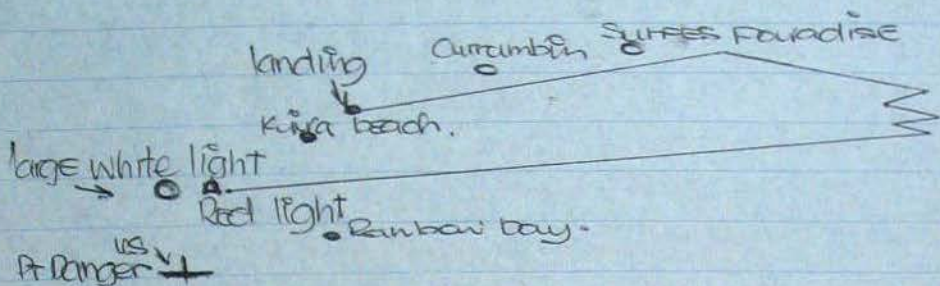
On our return some two hours later he told us that as there had been so many crimes committed during the blackout he had not had an opportunity to investigate, but assured us that he would do something when time permitted.

THE TIME ~~IT~~ WAS NEAR 1 AM, WE returned to the guesthouse, and at around ~~2~~ 3 AM left to drive home.

On the trip home another strange set of lights was observed, there was only the guy I was on holidays with and myself in the car, he had driven as far as Murwillumbah and became tired, I took over driving travelling down the highway I noticed bright lights in the distance, as we heard we

could see they were fairly large, the highway straightened and as we drew parallel we could see set back about two hundred yards of the road a group of lights, some eight to ten set at different levels all pointing skyward, each individual light would have been in size at least two or three car lengths, nothing could be seen around these lights, and there was only a few trees at the roadside hindering our vision, as I was driving I couldn't give my full attention to these lights, but as we passed by a hundred yards or so we stopped and had a further look, a noticeable thing was that for the largeness of these lights no beam was given off, still we could not make out anything around these lights, myself feeling uneasy at the time decided to proceed on the road, our position at this time was some five to ten miles north of Balina.

THE NAMES and addresses of all witnesses, can be supplied if required.



Lights Seen NEAR Balina all stationary on the ground



Much light being given off but not in direct beam all pointing directly up.



Highway



South

light patch of trees by roadside
NO trees between them and lights

15 FEB 73

SIGHTING # 2

EAST Kew
VIC

ELAINE GEORGE

- 4 APR 1973

580/1/1 Pt21 (3A)

Mrs E.L. George,
23 Bennett Pde,
EAST KEW VIC 3102

Dear Mrs George,

With reference to your report of an unusual aerial sighting on 15th February 1973, investigations have not been conclusive in determining the cause, but a theory considered by the investigating team to be a logical explanation is that the sighting was of an illuminated balloon, released for tracking purposes by an unknown person.

During the time of sighting, the wind profile as recorded by the Meteorological Bureau was:

surface	150°	at 6 knots
2000 ft	160°	at 8 knots
5000 ft	140°	at 12 knots
7000 ft	140°	at 10 knots (backing of wind)
10000 ft	250°	at 12 knots (through north)
12000 ft	240°	at 8 knots

and when related to the described track of the object sighted, conforms closely to the theoretical movement of a balloon if released from an area south east of your position.

Normally, logical explanations such as aircraft movements, meteorological measurements devices, satellites, planet/star positions or space debris entry to atmosphere, are available in answer to reports of unusual aerial sightings.

We regret that the theoretical explanation has not to date been substantiated but if further information becomes available to us in future, the investigation will re-open.

Thanking you for your report.

Yours faithfully,



(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

Handwritten notes:
E.L. George
23 Bennett Pde
4 Apr 73

580/1/1 Pt 21 (3B)

DEPAR (DFF)

5 APR 73

HQSC

CINTELDO

Your 5/6/1/HR (33)
of 5 Mar 73

REPORTS OF UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTINGS

Enclosed is a copy of letter from this Department to Mrs Elaine George, in reply to her report of an unusual aerial sighting.

Enclosure: Copy of letter to Mrs Elaine George.

M. Gretton

M. GRETTON FNC OFF IR-2 JHOB



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

DEPT. OF AIR
DAFI
580-1-1
7-2-73

3

TELEPHONE: 690550

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"AIRCOMMAND, MELBOURNE"

HEADQUARTERS SUPPORT COMMAND
RAAF
VICTORIA BARRACKS
MELBOURNE SCI VIC 3004

5 MAR 1973

IN REPLY QUOTE 5/6/1/Air(33)

~~DAFI~~ Department of Air (DAFI)

SIGHTING OF UNUSUAL AERIAL OBJECT

Enclosed is a copy of a UFO report forwarded
by Mrs E.L.George of 23 Bennett Parade East Kew.

R.R. Roddy
(R.R. RODDY)
Squadron Leader
For Air Officer Commanding

Enclosure: 1. UFO Sighting report

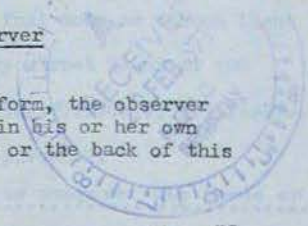


~~RESTRICTED~~

REPORT ON UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

Part I - Report by Observer

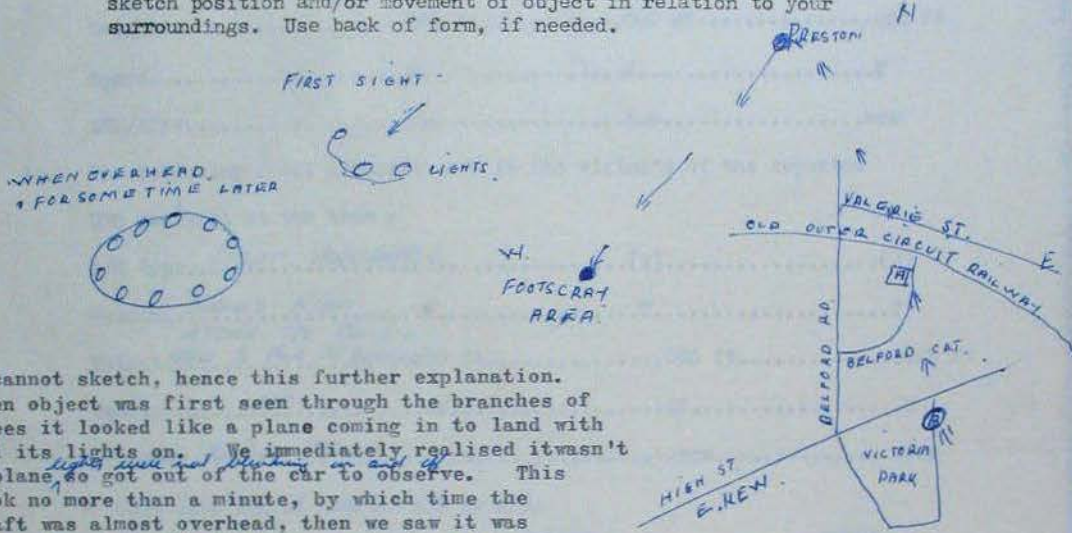
(As a preliminary to completing this form, the observer is invited to describe the sighting in his or her own manner, using either separate sheets or the back of this form.)



1. Name of observer Elaine L. George Age 58
2. Address of observer 23 Bennett Parade, East Kew. 3102.
..... Phone 85 5574
3. Occupation of observer Home Duties
4. Date and time of start of observation 15th February, 1973, 10.10.05 p.m.
How certain is the date? Quite certain
How accurate is the time of start? Within a few minutes
5. Duration of observation 10-15 minutes
How accurate is your estimate? All 5 viewers agree not less than 10 mins.
6. Observer's location at time of sighting At top end of Belford Court, E. Kew,
by the Old Outer Circuit Railway.
How familiar is observer with this locality? We drive our friend to her home
at least once a week.
7. Weather conditions at time of observation The night was still, little
or no wind, and the sky starry and clear.
8. Describe any aids/equipment used in the observation No aids
9. Where was object first observed? :
 - a. Relative to your surroundings First seen as it came from direction
of Victoria Park, and through trees.
 - b. angle of elevation 60° - 70°
 - c. compass angle bearing -
 - d. how accurate are these estimates? Near as we can assess.
10. What first attracted observer's attention? Belford Crt. is a dead end street,
and as my husband turned the car to face my friend's house (it faces W)
I saw the light through the front windscreen and the trees in street.
11. If there was more than one light/object :
 - a. how many were there? Only one object - round, reddish light in
centre with more amber coloured lights around circumference.
 - b. in what formation were they?
12. What was the colour of the light or object? Somewhat the colour of the
sodium street lights, but with glow of red in centre. This is one
point where there is a difference of opinion. All 4 ladies saw
~~reddish~~ the red colour, but my husband says
colour was amber to orange.

15/6/73
29/2/73

- 28. Do you know of witnesses to similar sightings in the area?... No.....
- 29. What natural phenomenon (or phenomena) would be nearest to explaining your observation?.....
First we thought it was a helicopter, then a balloon with a brightly lit gondola and lights around its circumference.....
- 30. What are your main reasons for excluding this explanation?.....
A helicopter would have made its normal engine noise, and there was no noise. It travelled too fast for a balloon, especially as it was a still night, also craft seemed to be well directed and under control.....
- 31. Please sketch the light/object with all details. If appropriate, sketch position and/or movement of object in relation to your surroundings. Use back of form, if needed.



I cannot sketch, hence this further explanation. When object was first seen through the branches of trees it looked like a plane coming in to land with all its lights on. ^{Lights first seen through trees in road} We immediately realised it wasn't a plane, so got out of the car to observe. This took no more than a minute, by which time the craft was almost overhead, then we saw it was all aglow, but with lights around circumference. I remarked at the time that it looked like a brightly illuminated clock. It had this appearance for quite a time. It moved slowly N and slightly W, gaining altitude, and when above Preston (as we judged) it appeared to hesitate for a couple of minutes, and then moved slowly S and slightly W, still gaining altitude, and now appeared as a large star, but more orange in colour. When we got into the car to go home it appeared high in the sky and apparently above Footscray. I have contacted all observers, and they are in general agreement with what I have stated, except for the one matter of colour, as above stated, but there is no doubt that it gave an impression of being very bright and orange to gold in colour, even when at a distance and high in the sky it had an orange glow.

- A. Observers
- B. Draft - first position

Signature Colin L. George

Date 21 Feb 1973

Part 2 - Unit Evaluation

32. The following military aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time :

A/C type.....(1).....NIL.....(2).....(3)
Heading.....T.....T.....T
Height.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000 ft
Speed.....K.....K.....K
ATD/ATA*.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

33. The following civil aircraft were in the vicinity of the reported UFO position at the time :

A/C type.....LIGHT AIRCRAFT.....(1).....(2).....(3)
Heading.....TURNED RIGHT AFTER THE AN O/U.....T.....T.....T
Height.....HQS. S. FOR PERFORMING.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000 ft
Speed.....110.....K.....K.....K
ATD/ATA*.....2200 TULLA.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

* Give location of nearest ATD or ATA.

34. Observer's Location : Latitude.....3748S.....Longitude.....14502E

35. Give bearing and elevation of any planets and major stars that were in that portion of the sky at that time. By day, give

location of Venus only.....PROCYON MAG. 0.620 MAG. 0.520 AT 2200
VENUS MAG. -4.8852 ONCEL AT 2200

36. A meteorological balloon was released from.....LAVERTON
at.....1000.....Z. Colour.....BLACK.....Weight.....T.....gm

Radio-sonde **/radar **: Candle **/battery** (**delete as required)

General wind profile.....MELB AREA SSE 6 KTS LAVERTON UPPER WINDS
2000 160/8, 3000 150/10 5000 140/12 TK 140/10 10K 250/12 12K 240/8

Maximum height tracked.....,000 ft at.....Z

RELATIVE HUMIDITY 77% AT 2100. 77% AT 2359.
Was it known to have burst?

37. The first significant temperature inversion was of2-3.....°C at
.....2-3000.....ft, measured at.....1000.....Z hrs from.....MELB/TULLA
.....station.

38. Any remarks on satellites, rockets, research balloons, comets, meteorites etc. relevant to the sighting.....NIL

39. When an aircraft is a possible identification, include radar trace

if available, and ascertain which of the aircraft lights were operating..... *N/A*

40. The cause (or likely cause) of the sighting ~~can~~/cannot* be determined.

41. The object reported probably was*/may have been* (delete as required) *UNKNOWN*

The light ~~up~~ out of ~~TULLA~~ at 2200 can be discounted, as its heading was almost the exact reciprocal of the object, ^{as first} reported by ~~Mr G.~~ The next ~~up~~ movement was not until 2230 when a DC3 left ESSENDON for LAUNCESTON. The met balloon released from Laverton is also not regarded as a likely cause, as it was released one hour before the sighting. I spoke to ~~Mr G.~~ who seemed very genuine and alert and she expressed the belief that she would have recognized an aircraft and could distinguish between fixed wing ~~up~~ and helicopters. The general profile of surface and upper winds would have carried the Laverton balloon inland toward Bacchus Marsh. Even if the sighting could be attributed to an aircraft not accounted for by controllers at TULLA, the duration of this sighting (10-15 minutes) rules out even slow aircraft. I am wondering if pranksters are responsible for some of the objects seen over Melbourne i.e. by sending aloft illuminated balloons.

..... *HQSC* (Unit) *[Signature]* (Name)
..... *2 MAR 73* (Date) *Sgt MR* (Rank)

4 FEB 73

SIGHTING # 1

KIMBA
SA

B. L. HUNT

5801/1 P-21 (20)

2 MAY 73

DEPAR (DAFI)

HOESD

F10

Your 613/AIR(4)
OF 1ST MARCH 1973

REPORTS OF UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTINGS

Enclosed for your records is a copy of a letter from this Department to Constable P.H. Summerton in reply to a report of an unusual aerial sighting made to him by Mr B.L. Hunt.

ENCLOSURE. Copy of a letter to Constable PH Summerton

M. C. GIBSON M. C. GIBSON F10 OFF IR-2 2408

580/1/1 Pt21 (20)

- 2 MAY 1973

Constable P.M. Summerton,
C/- Police Station,
KIMBA SA 5641

Dear Sir,

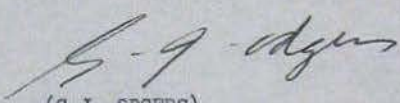
With reference to the report of an unusual aerial sighting witnessed by Mr Hunt, and subsequent correspondence, we regret that the investigating team has been unable to conclusively determine the cause.

A possible theoretical cause is a sighting of a phenomenon known as IGNIS FATUUS - methane gas released from decaying vegetation and spontaneously ignited - but this theory is impossible to substantiate.

We thank you for your interest and concern in this particular sighting and request that the witnesses, whose addresses are unknown to us, be advised of our investigations from your office.

For information, of the 653 unusual aerial sightings reported to the RAAF to date, approximately 93% have been logically explained, 6% have had insufficient detail provided to enable determination of the causes, and 1% are unexplainable.

Yours faithfully,


(C.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

3/1/73
30/4/73



15 of 73
 ODGENS,
 Director of Public Relations,
 Dept. of Air,
 CANBERRA

28

REFERENCE: 580/1/1 (2a)

I apologise for the delay in answering your letter dated 13/3/73. I have been on Annual leave, interstate, and returned home on 10/4/73.

The 'Polygonum Tanks' have been in ruins for many years. There is only one such tank remaining. It is on its side and partly filled with earth.

The remains of this tank are about 5' high, by 6' in width. It is constructed of concrete (unpainted) and galvanized iron (unpainted).

This last remnant of the tanks in question is about 60 yards from the roadway. It is resting against a myall tree and is overgrown with bushes. The tank is about 40 yards west from the point where the U.F.O. was sighted.

The area in which the sighting occurred is in a fairly heavily vegetated district, consisting of myall trees, sheoaks, blue-bush and saltbush. The witnesses are quite certain, however, that the U.F.O. appeared in a clearing, about 30 yards diameter, adjoining the roadway. The point is located near a hollow, on the southern side of a slight rise in the terrain.

Immediately adjacent to the point in question, between the edge of the bitumen and the fence, there is a rough 'parking' area which could be used by travellers. There is an old fireplace situated at this point, about 40 yards from where the U.F.O. was sighted. When I returned to the location on the night of the sighting, I made a close examination of this area. It was obvious that no vehicles had used the 'run off' parking area for several weeks. The old fireplace also, had not been used for quite some time. In the opinion of S.O.I.C. HUMPHREYS and myself, there was not the slightest possibility that the old tank, or a parked vehicle, could have been mistaken for a U.F.O.

Incidentally, since the initial report, I have received two other 'independent' reports of a similar nature, in the same place, at the same time as HURT's sighting. A local farmer, apparently traveling in front of HURT states that he saw an extremely bright orange-red light, about 10 feet high and 5 feet in diameter. He did not see the figure of a man as described by HURT. I also believe that a truck-driver, a Ian DEBARR of Caduna, saw the same UFO as described by HURT. This person was traveling behind HURT. All three sightings apparently occurred within a period of about 15 minutes. All witnesses are reliable.

FILBA
 12/4/73

P. M. Summerton
 P.M. SUMMERTON
 P.O. 8. 1251/2



2A

13/MAR/73

580/1/1 (2A)

Constable P.H. Summerton,
C/- Police Station,
KIMBA, S.A. 5641

Dear Sir,

Your report of an unusual sighting made by Brian Leatham Hunt at 9.50 pm on Sunday 4th February 1973, has been forwarded to this Department for investigation.

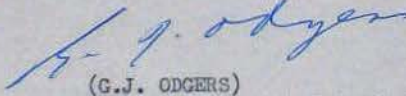
From the information supplied we are unable to determine a cause and would, therefore, be grateful of your assistance in supplying further details of the area in which the sighting was made.

We note from a road map that at a point on the Eyre Highway about 35 miles from Kimba, there are some tanks known as the Polygonum Tanks. Would you please supply the following information relating to these tanks:

- a. height;
- b. width;
- c. colour;
- d. construction;
- e. position relative to the road; and
- f. whether they have been defaced in any way.

Details of any other unusual features on the side of the highway and a brief description of the terrain in the vicinity of the sighting will also be of assistance in our investigation.

Yours faithfully,



(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

Handwritten note:
Copy
Data
13/3/73



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE



Headquarters
RAAF Base
EDINBURGH SA 5111

1st March 1973

6/13/Air(4)

Department of Air

DAFI

For Information: Headquarters Operational Command

UNUSUAL SIGHTING - EYRE PENINSULA

1. Attached is a report received from Whyalla Police Station per Police Headquarters, South Australia.
2. In view of the nature of the sighting and the remoteness of the locality, this Headquarters feels that further investigation would prove fruitless.
3. Forwarded for information.

(B.G. KING)
Flight Lieutenant
for Officer Commanding

- Enclosures:
- A. Letter from Police HQ
 - B. Letter from OIC Whyalla Police and attachment
 - C. Kimba location map



POLICE HEADQUARTERS
ADELAIDE
SOUTH AUSTRALIA



FILED	THIS FOLIO	
BOX NO.	PREVIOUS	SUB
ADELAIDE, S.A.		



OUR REF. 15/3/192244
YOUR REF.

The Officer-in-Charge,
U.F.O.,
Royal Australian Air Force,
Headquarters,
R.A.A.F. Base,
EDINBURGH.

Dear Sir,

Attached for your information is a report from
Constable P.H. Summerton of the Kimba Police Station relative
to an alleged unidentified flying object sighting on
4 February 1973 at near Kimba.

EURAP
Yours faithfully,

E.L. Calder
Assistant Commissioner
(Operations)

DATE	CI	INFO

REPLY DIRECT BY
Comp for info HQERN

REPLY TO HQERN BY

REPLY FOR
OO's IN NATURE BY

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

6/2/73

ENC:



Officer in Charge,
 No 21 Division,
WHYALLA

RECEIVED
 10/24/76
 WHYALLA

SUBJECT: U.F.O. Sighting.

1. At about 9.50pm on Sunday 4/2/73, Brian Leatham HUNT born 30/10/54 was driving his motor vehicle in a westerly direction along the Eyre Highway, towards Kimba.
2. About 34 miles from Kimba, he states that he saw a strange light on the western side of the Eyre Highway about 1 chain from the edge of the roadway.
3. The attached sketch was drawn by HUNT at about 9.30am on 5/2/73. He describes the light as being about ten feet high, 5' in diameter and red-orange in colour. In the middle of this shaft of light he states that he clearly saw the figure of a man, dressed in a white suit, similar in appearance to the space suits worn by modern day astronauts. He further states that the figure was covered by a helmet and mask, and the figure appeared to be suspended two to three feet from the ground.
4. HUNT was accompanied by a female passenger in his vehicle. This girl, Sharyn Anne FINCKLER, born 19/11/56 of Kimba, states that she was dozing at the time. However she says that she saw an orange light as they passed the area. It was not until HUNT spoke, that she looked back and states that she saw the light through the rear window of the car. She did not see a figure of a man although by this time the light was partly obscured by trees.
5. HUNT is quite well known to me. He is a responsible type of person and is absolutely convinced that he saw the described light. He reported the matter to Kimba Police at about 10.45pm on 4/2/73. S.C.I.G. Humphrys and I returned to the scene with HUNT at about 11.30pm. A search of the area was made but no further evidence substantiating the sighting was found.
6. HUNT states that he had slept for 9 hours, from midnight Saturday til 9.00am on Sunday 4/2/73. He states that he had not consumed any alcohol during the day. On seeing the light he became extremely frightened and did not stop to investigate the matter.
7. This report submitted in accordance with C.M.A.S. 21/67.

KIMBE
 KIMBA
 5/2/73

P.H. Summerton
 P.H. SUMMERTON
 Const 1751

WATER

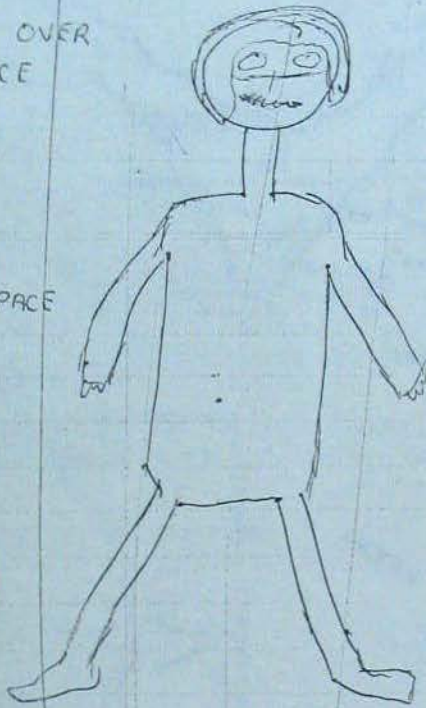
RED & ORANGE
FLAME

MASK OVER
HEAD & FACE

10^{FT} HIGH

WHITE SPACE
SUIT

MAN 6^{FT} HIGH

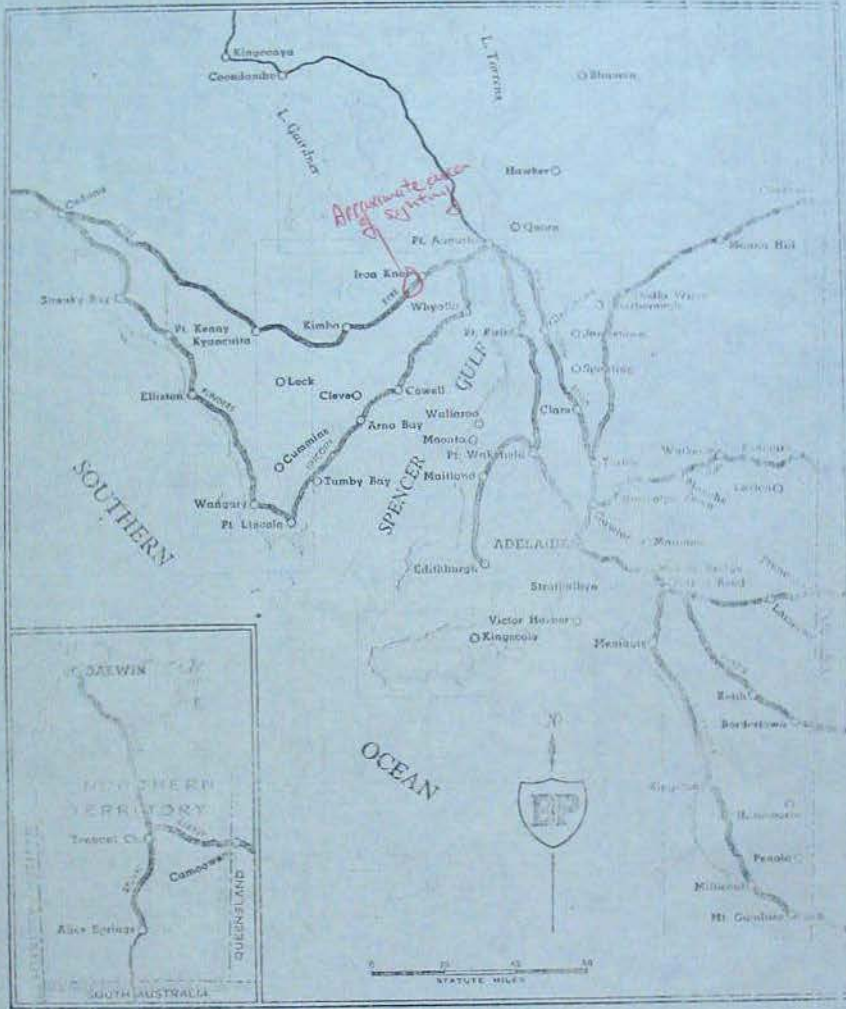


5^{FT}

2-3^{FT} OF GROUND

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

KEY TO SECTIONAL MAPS



Keep You Miles Ahead!



REGISTRY CLASSIFICATION PARTICULARS

CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBJECT INDEX

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