AR 158
Revised Oct 80

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

FILE No: OLD AIR. 580 1 1

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 (Inits)
	P.A. 73	10.8.84	✓

Folio	Referred to	Date Referred	Actioned by (Inits)

ARCHIVAL ACTION

FILE No: OLD AIR 580 1 1

Part No: 21

Stock No 7530-66-093-3093

Summary Of Sightings

No	Place / Date	Person	Receipt	Reply	Remarks
1 ✓	Kimba SA 4 Feb 73	B.L. Hunt	6 Mar 73	2 May 73 ✓	Further info requested Re Form 2A. Reply received 14.4.-28. UNKNOWN - Possible IGNAS Fatuus
2 ✓	East Kew Vic 15 Feb 73	Elaine George	6 Mar 73	13 Mar 73 ✓	Possible Balloon.
3 ✓	Coonanchista Qld 14 Jan 73	R Nicol	13 Mar 73	13 Apr 73 ✓	Private Helicopter and Pools of Water Reflecting Moonlight
4 ✓	Surfers Paradise Qld 4 Jan 73	Mrs I.G. Alemp	13 Mar 73	20 Mar 73 ✓	Probable Helicopter
5 ✓	Charlestown NSW 10 Mar 73	Mrs I. Copas Barry Copas	20 Mar 73	23 Mar 73 ✓	Qantas A/c (Ref 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	Mr. & Mrs K Tyrar	11 Dec 72	13 Apr 73 ✓	Two light aircraft reflecting sunlight
8 ✓	Amberley Qld 17 Mar 73	J.V. Storey	17 Mar 73	2 Apr 73 ✓	Probably Meteorite or Space Debris re-entry.
9 ✓	Newcastle NSW 13 Mar 73	T.V. McBasker	3 Apr 73	12 Apr 73 ✓	Probably 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 ✓	Springbrook Qld 9 Apr 73	J. Pilgrim	17 Apr 73	22 May 73 ✓	Unknown (Prob Kugelblitz)
13 ✓	Lockleys SA 10 Apr 73	Dr. Leeson	17 Apr 73	30 Apr 73 ✓	Space Debris Reentry
14 ✓	Darwin NT 4 Apr 73	G. Howells	26 Apr 73	2 May 73 ✓	Power line insulators.
15 ✓	Rochedale Qld 7 Apr 73	Mrs Bobbermien	26 Apr 73	30 Apr 73 ✓	Kugelblitz.
16 ✓	Wynnum Nth Qld 11 Apr 73	Mrs 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.

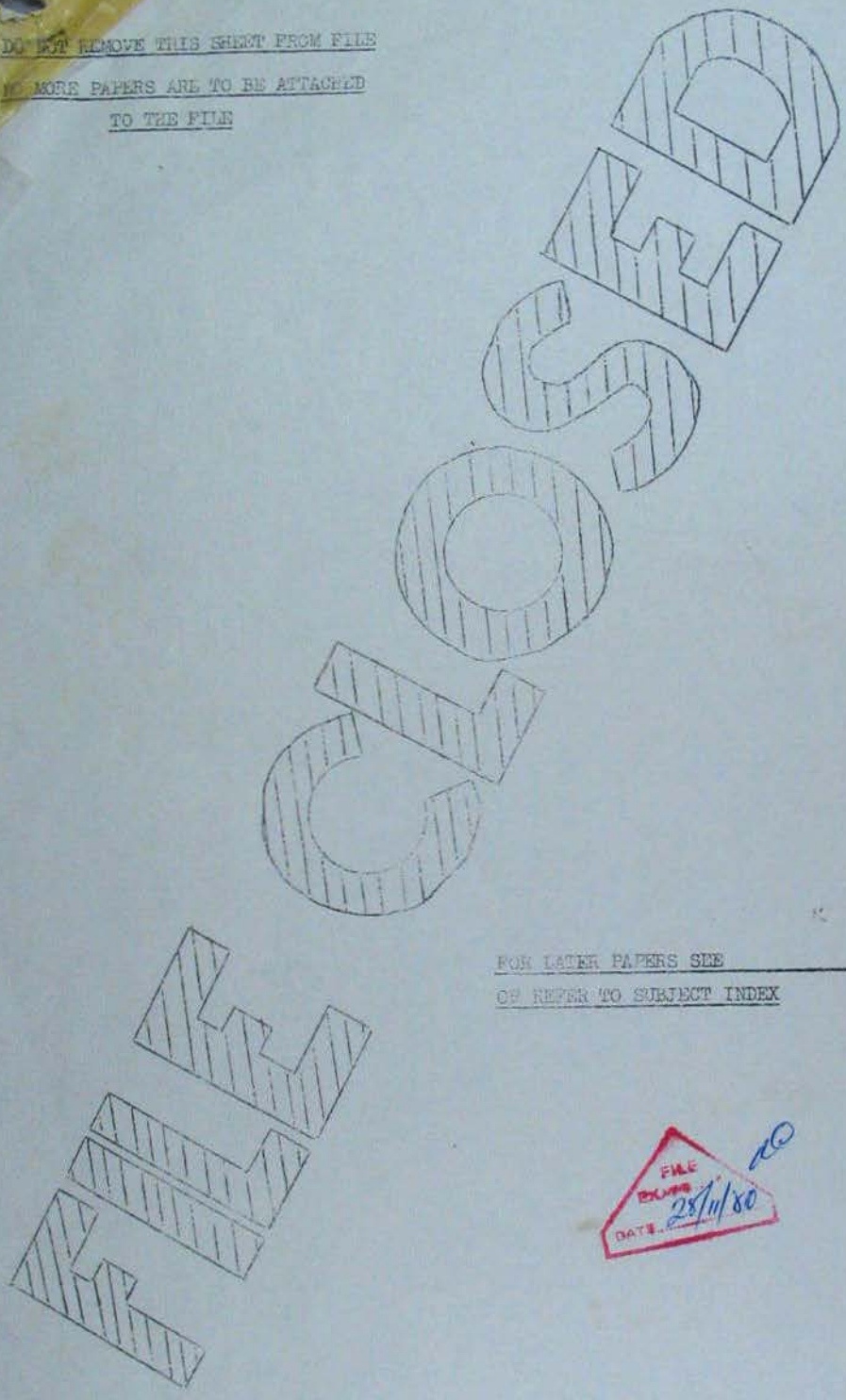
In accordance with Reference A, all folios, in all parts of Department of Air File series 580/1/1 are reclassified 'UNCLASSIFIED' with effect 7 May 82.

(G.A. PERSKE)
GPCAPT
DAFIS

7 May 82

DO NOT REMOVE THIS SHEET FROM FILE

NO MORE PAPERS ARE TO BE ATTACHED TO THE FILE



FOR LATER PAPERS SEE

OR REFER TO SUBJECT INDEX

11 APR 73

SIGHTING # 16

WYNNUM NTH MRS A. HANKINSON
QLD

Royal Australian Air Force
A273 – MEMORANDUM
May 72 Stock No 7530-66-052-8064

DEPAIR | FILE 580/1/1 (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 Hambuson, in reply to her report of an unusual aerial sighting.

ENCLOSURE: Copy of letter to Mrs. A Hambuson.

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

(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

Explan
DAFI
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/Air	FOLIO: 12
FROM: HQANMB	DATE: 17 APR 73
TO: DEDAIR	ATTENTION: DAFI-IR
SUBJECT: UFO REPORTS	REFERENCES: (17)

FORWARDED ARE TWO UFO REPORTS.

ENCLOSURE: TWO UFO REPORTS — 15 & 16

RECEIVED
26 APR 1973
DAFI

SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	RANK	APPOINTMENT	PHONE EXT
Paul T. Davison	P. T. DAVISON	FLG OFF	ISSN INTEL O	2503

RESTRICTED

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. 965054...
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 appox 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 .....

RESTRICTED

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 ~~Venus~~ 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 tail 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 .....

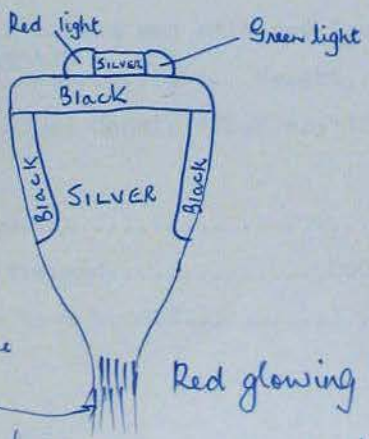
28. Do you know of witnesses to similar sightings in the area?..... No .....

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.



Starts Red and then colours spread out from here

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.....,000 ft

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° 09 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. JUPITER AND MARS WERE BOTH LOW IN EASTERN SKY.....

36. A metecrological ballon 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 at .....ft, measured at.....Z hrs from.....station.

38. Any remarks on satellites, rockets, research balloons, commets, 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.

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

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

BRISBANE
QUEENSLAND
MORETON
Cabbage Tree Head
Nudgee Beach
Cribb Island
Nudgee
Lower Nudgee
Landers Pocket
Myrtletown
Luggage Pt
Juno Pt
CLIMBED AT 45°
BULWER ISLAND
WHYTE ISLAND
LYTTON HILL
RIVER
Brisbane Airport
Pinkenba
Eagle Farm
Meeandah
Lytton
Reaching Pt
DIRECTION ROAD
BRISBANE
GIBSON ISLAND
Wynnum North
Wynnum
Wynnum Central
Lindum
Hemmant
Doboy
Murarrie
Oyster Pt
Coxen Pt
Quarries
Boat
Cabal
FISHERMAN ISLANDS
Lower Reach
Aquarium
Royal Queensland Golf Links
Nudgee Golf Links
St Vincent's Convent
Sewage Treatment Works
Radio Masts
Inner Cutting Beacon
Signal Station
Jetty
Wharf
Ramp
Drain
Creek
Mud
Sand
Banks
West
Sand
08
09
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17

RESTRICTED

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 ago sixty years, appeared to be a sound, rational person, not subject to an exagerated 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

ROCHEDALE nr. BOBBERMIEN
QLD

580/1/1 P-21 (16B)

DEPAIR (DAFI)

1 MAY 73

HQAMB 1SQN INTELO

YOUR 5/9/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 Bobbernien in answer to her report of an unusual aerial sighting.

ENCLOSURE: Copy of letter to Mrs Bobbernien.

M. Mellen M CRETTON FLG OFF IR 2 1408

580/1/1 Pt21 (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

RESTRICTED

16

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 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?... ± 30 mins ...
5. Duration of observation... Approx 3 mins ...
How accurate is your estimate?... ± 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° ± 5° ...
(c) compass angle bearing... NE ± 10° ...
(d) how accurate are these estimates...
10. What first attracted observer's attention?...
... Dog's unusual bark & clicking noise ...

RESTRICTED

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 as 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 2ft x 1ft 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

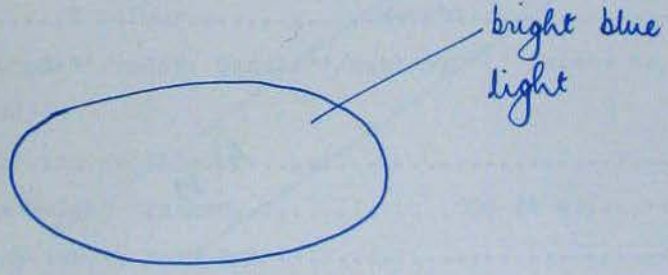
27. How many witness to the sighting? No

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. Bobbermein 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.....,000 ft

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?.....

NO MILITARY OR CIVIL AIRCRAFT OPERATING

...../5.

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, commets, meteorites etc. relevant to the sighting. LATEST SATELLITE BULLETIN 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 [redacted]*/may have been* (delete as required)

Probably some form of electricity on power lines that [redacted] are located in the area where Mrs BOBBERMIEN was looking.

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

13 APR 73 (Date) FLG OFF (Rank)

BEENLEIGH

QUEENSLAND

1:63.360

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 exagerated 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 MR. G. HOWELLS
N.T.

1

5801/1/R 21(15B)

DEPAIR (DAFI)

2 MAY 73

HODIR F10

YOUR 5/4/AIR(32) 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 FLOFF 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

(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

Typed
Date
1 May 73

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

DEPT. OF AIR
580-1-1
DAFI

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)
Squadron Leader
For Officer T/Commanding

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

RECEIVED
26 APR 1973
DAFI

RESTRICTED

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. 5790

..... Phone. 818317 .....

3. Occupation of observer. PAINTER .....

4. Date and time of start of observation. 4TH APRIL 1973 APPROX 1.30 TO 2.30 AM

How certain is the date? ..... DEFINITE .....

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? .....

RESTRICTED

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 minimumangle 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. ... ALOMOST 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 desappearance?... GLOW DISSIPATED

25. Do you know of any associated physical evidence (such as fragments, photographs, scorching, ground indentations, residual magnetism or 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 J. 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)

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...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...AREA OF 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 ~~height~~ DIST tracked...21.79 KM...,~~000 ft~~ at..... .....Z

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

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, commets, 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*/cannot* be determined.

41. The object reported XXXXXXXXXXX*/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 MILS 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 REASONSFOR 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 SOBER 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) [signature] (Name)

10TH APRIL 1973 (Date) SQUADRON LEADER (Rank)

10 APR 78

SIGHTING # 18

LOCKLEYS
S.A.

DR. LEESON

580/1/1 P-21 (1+B)

DEPAIR (AAF:)

1 MAY 73

HQDEDN

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. Hessen in answer to his report of an unusual aerial sighting.

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

M Cullen M. CRETTON FLOFF: 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

(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

Ad 27 Apr 73

14

DEPT. OF AIR
9
580-1-1
DAFI 8-3-73

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

Adelaide 55 7000

Headquarters
RAAF Base
EDINBURGH SA 5111

6/13/Air(S)

11th April 1973

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

For Information:

D/DAFI

Headquarters Operational Command (Attention: CIO)

UNUSUAL AERIAL PHENONEMA

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 AIRIAL OBJECT OBSERVED

PART 1 - REPORT BY OBSERVER

1. Name of observer...DR. LEESON C.A.... Age...53.....

2. Address of observer...3 MIRIANDA AVE. ADELAIDE
.....S.A. 5032.....Phone...[illegible] 517400 work

3. Occupation of observer...COMMONWEALTH MET. OFFICER

4. Date and time of observation...0235 FRI 10 APR 73, OUTER HARBOR

5. Duration of observation...1 MINUTE.....(at least ½ minute)

6. Observers location at time of sighting...WALLACE BRUCE
.....PILOT SAID.....

7. Weather conditions at time of observation...CLEAR, CALM,
....NIGHT.....

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.....
.....

.../2

11. Did object appear as a light or as a definite object ?

LIGHT (EYE SIGHT NOT GOOD AT NIGHT)

INCANDESCENT TRAILS

12. If there was more than one object :-

(a) how many were there ? 2

(b) in what formation were they ? TWOCM

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

.../3

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 SAILING

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. GOWER - CUSTOMS DEPT.) COXSWAIN OF "WALLACE BRUCE" 1 OTHER CUSTOMS MAN

John Bell FLT OFF
Interviewer.

.../4

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 .....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.....NIL.....(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..34.45S.....Longitude138.30E

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 baloon 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.....ooo ft at .....Z

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.

B.G. KING
Flt Lt
OIC UFO Investigation

Headquarters
RAAF Base
EDINBURGH SA 5111
11 APR 73

Unit
Date

9 APR 73

SIGHTING # 12

SPRINGBROOK J. PILGRIM
QLD

Royal Australian Air Force
A273 – MEMORANDUM
May 72 Stock No 7530-66-052-8064

FROM	FILE	DATE	REFERENCES
DEPAIR	580/1/1 P 21 (135)	20 JUN 73	HQAMB S/9/1AIR(7) DF 11 APR 73

TO	ATTENTION
HQAMB	W/O

SUBJECT
REPORT OF UNUSUAL AERIAL SIGHTING

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 sighting.

ENCLOSURE Copy of letter to Mr J Pilgrim.

SIGNATURE	NAME	RANK	APPOINTMENT	PHONE NO
M Cullen	M GRETTON	FLGOFF	I.O.	2408

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

...ned, 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

(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

Glyclops
Data
20 Jun 73

Royal Australian Air Force
273 Feb 70 **MEMO**

For use within the RAAF only
Write or print clearly

FROM HQ AMB	OUR FILE 11/APR 73	FOLIO 12
TO DAFI DEPAIR	DATE 5/9/73	REFERENCE
SUBJECT UFO REPORT	ATTENTION DAFI - IR	

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

1. Forwarded is one copy of a UFO report by Mr and Mrs J. PILGRIM of Spurnbrook Road, SPRINGBROOK, QLD.

2. Attached to the report is a map of the area, and 82 wing report.

ENCLOSURE : 1. UFO REPORT.

18/4.
2000-2100

RECEIVED
17 APR 1973
DAFI

Contact - Mr IANEABIE Div of Entomology CSIRO 487722

SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	RANK	APPOINTMENT	PHONE EXT
R Bertram	R. M. BERTRAM	Sqn Ldr	WIO.	2023

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 if 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 Window of lounge 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 near 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 FLOURESCENT LIGHT..... but fluctuating somewhat.

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 arms 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 -

...13

(a) relative to your surroundings... Light appeared

(b) angle of elevation... to be about 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) Ground 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 round ball.

Signature..... 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 engined (1) SY-BN.....(2).....(3)

Heading...North.....T.....T.....T

Height...7000'.....,000 ft.....,000 ft.....,000 ft

Speed...215 K.....K.....K.....K

overhead → Cobangatta 17537

ATA* Landed Brisbane 18077.....hrs.....hrs.....hrs

* 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. RIGEL KENT.....

210°/50°.....

36. A meteorological ballon was released from BRISBANE.....

at 17.00 Z Colour.....Weight.....gm

Radio-sonde**/radar; Candle**/battery**(**delete as required) Possibility discounted as balloon travelled north-west from Brisbane

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 Possibility of slight inversion at 10,000' ft, measured at ..... Z hrs at about 10,300 Zulu Local. 9/10 gained from ~~from~~ AMBERLEY met. station.

38. Any remarks on satellites, rockets, research balloons, comets, meteorites etc. relevant to the sighting..... ~~Nil~~ 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 ~~was~~/cannot* be determined.

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

.....

82 WING AMBERLEY (Unit) R.M. BERTRAM (Name)

11th April 1973 (Date) Sqn Ldr (Rank)

1:250,000
R-502 SERIES
(TWEED HEADS)
ELEVATION OF HOUSE - 1850'
ELEVATION OF RIDGE - 2250'
600405
240°
POSITION OF HOUSE
POSITION OF LIGHT
SURFERS PARADISE
Broadbeach
Mermaid Beach
Nobby Beach
Miami
Burleigh Heads
Palm Beach
Currumbin
Tugun
Bilinga
Kirra
COOLANGATA
TWEED
MURWILLUMBAH
Cudgen
Tumbulgum
Cyranbee
Clothiers Creek
Tyalgum
Pumpenbil
Mount Jerusalem
Mount Burrell
Mount Warning
Mount Nullum
Mount Wollumbin
Mount Lindesay
Mount Barney
Mount Clunie
Mount Cougal
Mount Roberts
Mount Bithongabel
Mount Throwback
Mount Bellevue
Mount Bellevue
Mount Bellevue

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 vechular 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.

./7. During

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 phenomenon.

9 MAR 73

SIGHTING # 11

BELMONT NSW

D McGILL

580/1/1 Pt 21 (118)

DEPAIR (DAT1) 16 MAY 73

HQWLM 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 Ginsberg 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 Ginsberg

M Cmeller M GRETTON FNCOF: IRD 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 occurrance 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

Typed
Date
11 May 73

RESTRICTED

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

DEPT. OF AIR
S80-1-1
DAFI 3.5.73

TELEPHONE: Newcastle 65-1221

Headquarters
RAAF Base
WILLIAMTOWN NSW 2314

IN REPLY QUOTE 5/2/Air(37)

3rd May 1973

Secretary
Department of Air
Russell Offices
CANBERRA ACT 2600

DAFI

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.

RECEIVED
-8 MAY 1973
DAFI

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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) JP.

a plausible explanation. I presume the Base Intell O will make report to Dept Air. Folio 30 refers.

, Mray. CO.

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 loung 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 PYE 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)
Sqn Ldr
OIC Radio/Radar

30 Apr 73

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

TELEPHONE: Newcastle 65 1221

DEPT. OF AIR
DAFI
SBO-1-1
8-3-73

Headquarters
RAAF Base
WILLIAMTOWN NSW 2314

IN REPLY QUOTE 5/2/Air(30)

29th March 1973

RECEIVED
-3 APR 1973
DAFI

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 0-1000 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.

RECEIVED
19 MAR 1973
WILLIAMTOWN

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 N.S.W.
   Phone Nele 45478.
3. Occupation of observer Invalid Pensioner (Radio Experimenter)
4. Date and time of start of observation 9th March 1973 approx: 9 PM.
   How certain is the date? Accurate
   How accurate is the time of start? within 30 minutes i.e. 8:30/9:30 PM.
5. Duration of observation 90 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 observe object
   How familiar is observer with this locality? Very
   I have lived 6 years & 3½ 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 E. where they dissapeared from my view due to cloud cover.
8. Describe any aids/equipment used in the observation
   Spectacles only ~~Nil~~
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? momentary 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 at year of leader
12. What was the colour of the light or object? ordinary light globe colour 40 watts
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 ¼ 20' diameter at 12000 ft high
    b. Relative dimensions in inches at arm's length (about 20 inches from the eyes)

No 4. Hall Pl
Belmont 2280
N.S.W. 16th March

R.F. Blackburn. F. Lt.
for Officer I/Commanding

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

The objects in question were sighted by me purely by chance. but nevertheless they were very real and I swear + declare before Almighty God that I have given you answers to your questionaire as accurate as I came.

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 phenoma, or loss or gain of altitude. No noise or exhaust flame or vapour, just two reasonably bright globes travelling in the atmosphere at a fast rate of speed in ½ 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 all 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 phenoma on 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 marvelous and impossible, but I can only stick to the truth.

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

Thanking you sir,

I remain
Yours Faithfully
David McGill.

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 A. 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 exhausts or vapour trails, just objects 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 west

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 A/A Gunner

27. How many witnesses to the sighting? none - sorry

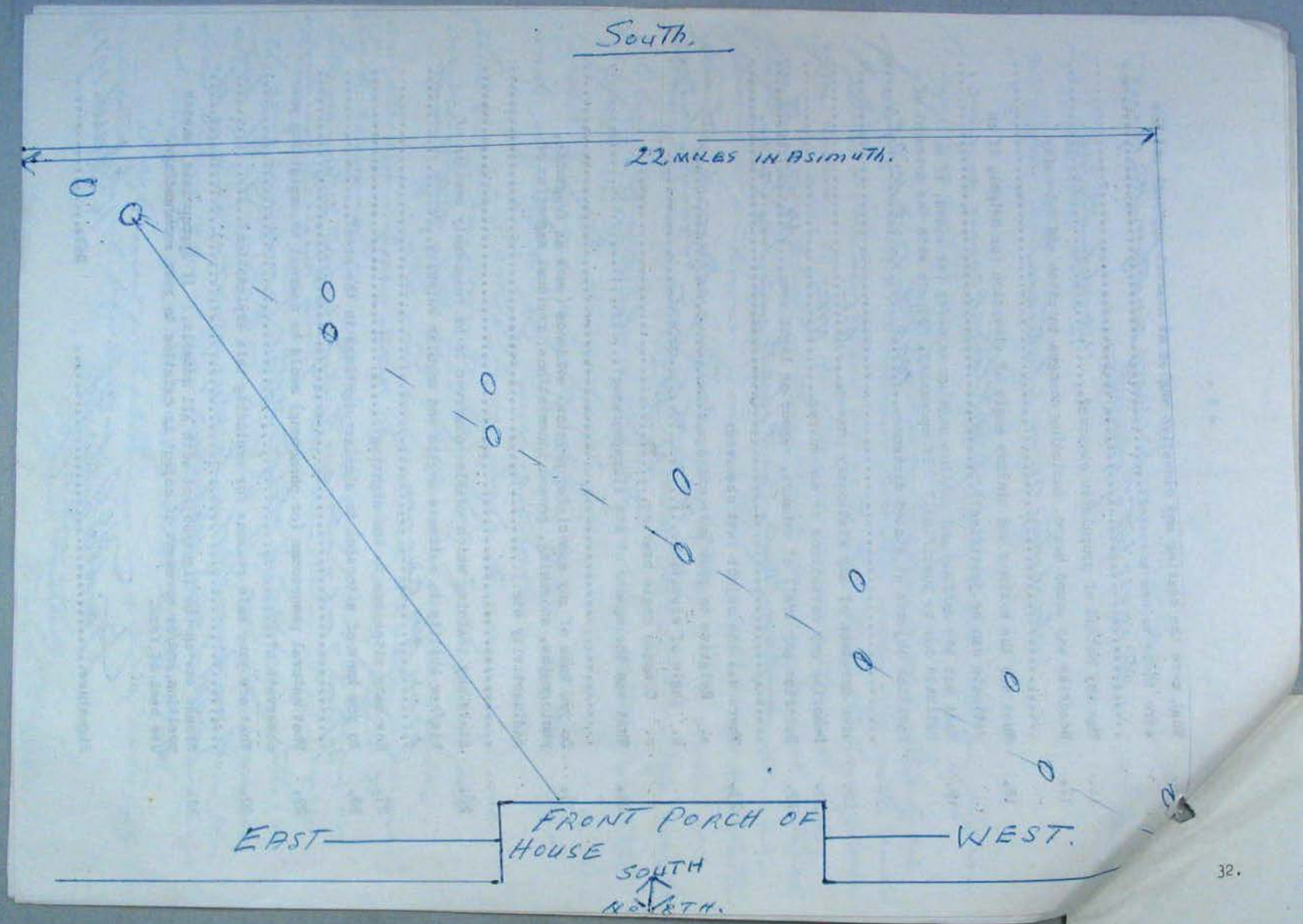
28. Do you know of witnesses to similar sightings in the area? yes approx 2 or 3 months ago. Reported object to pass over Toronto area - 20 mins duration

29. What natural phenomenon (or phenomena) would be nearest to explaining your observation? Ground Globe prattled by unknown force.

30. What are your main reasons for excluding this explanation? To the best of my knowledge I thought the information above as the best I can substitute

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.



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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 wer
UFO position at the time:
A/C type....NIL....(1).
Heading....T..

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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.....
..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
.....
.....

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).
.....

.....HQWLM.....(Unit)....A.F.BLACKBURN.....(Name)
.....29th March 1973.....(Date)....Flight Lieutenant.....(Rank)

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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 cloud had cleared by 2100.
10.4 hrs of sunshine that day.

15 MAR 73

SIGHTING # 10

MERIWEATHER N. KELLNER
NSW

~~RESTRICTED~~ DECLASSIFIED

11

580/1/1 (11B)

17 APR 73.

DEPA.R (DAFI)

HOWLM F10

YOUR
5/2/AIR (21) of 29 MAR 73
5/2/AIR (29) of 29 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 Keller 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 Keller

M Keller M GRETTON FLT OFF IRJ 3408

RESTRICTED

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

(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

Dispatched 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

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 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 Marquerie Street Merewether.....
.....Newcastle.....Phone..63 1089.
3. Occupation of observer..Engineer Supt. Tannoe Oxygen Plant.....
4. Date and time of start of observation..15-3-73.....10.35 p.m.....
How certain is the date? ....Absolutely.....
How accurate is the time of start?...within 5 minutes.....
5. Duration of observation.....2½-3 seconds.....
How accurate is your estimate?....within ½ 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 our eyes were attracted by the bright red light.

I immediately pointed out the object to my wife and she observed the last 1½ - 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 ~~eaves~~ leaves.

MK.

RECEIVED
19 MAR 1973
WILLIAMTOWN

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 14° 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.

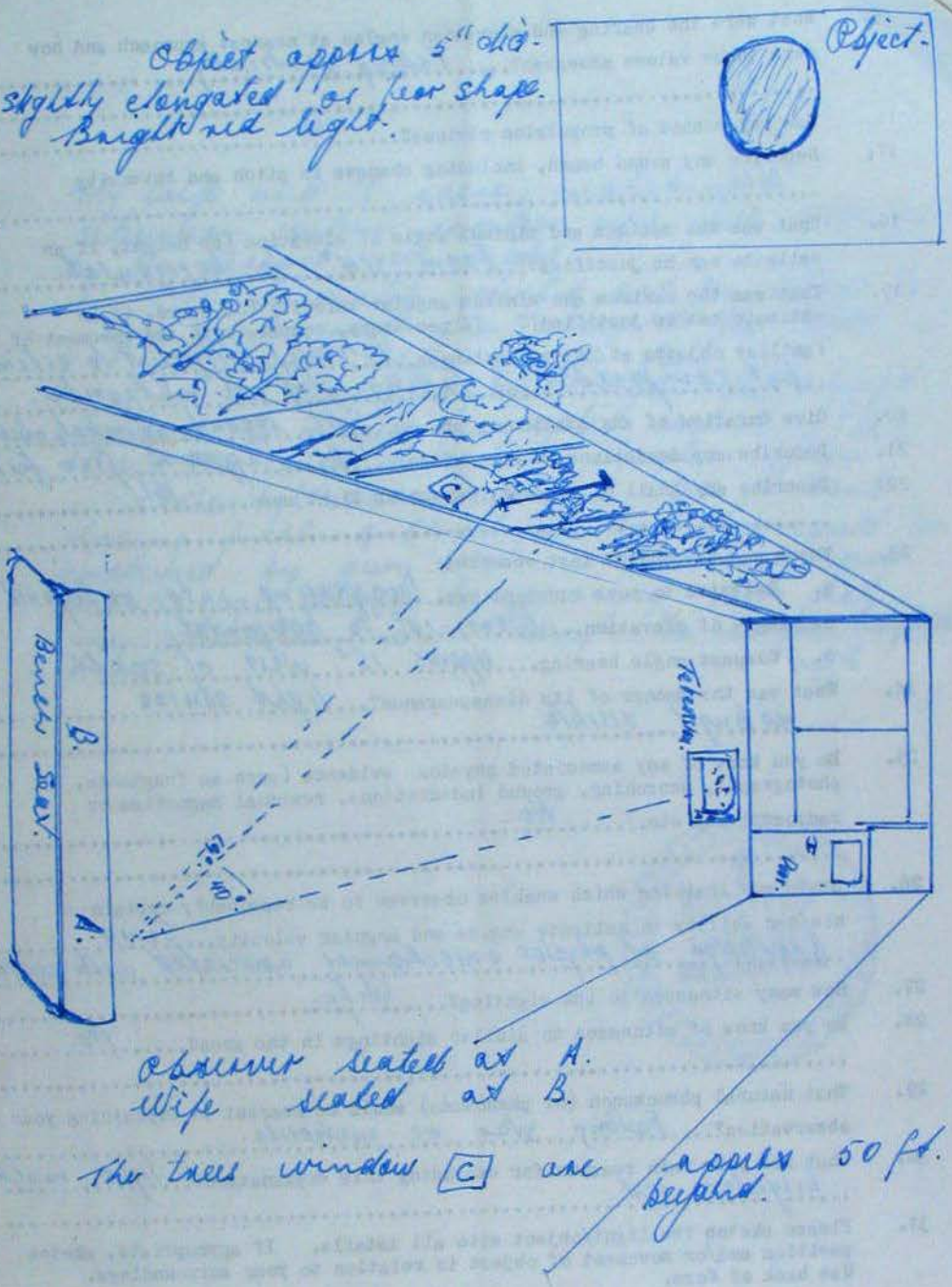
29. What natural phenomenon (or phenomena) would be nearest to explaining your observation? Falling star or meteorite.

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 appears 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. beyond.

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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.....

.....HQWLM.....(Unit)...A F BLACKBURN...(Name)
.....29th March 1973..(Date)...Flight Lieutenant..(Rank)

RESTRICTED

13 MAR 73

SIGHTING # 9

NEWCASTLE
NSW

T.V. McCOSKER

RESTRICTED

10

16 APR 1973

580/1/1 Pt21 (10A)

Mr T.J. McCosker,
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

(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

Sqn Ldr
DAFI
12Apr73

RESTRICTED

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

TELEPHONE: Newcastle 65 1221

Headquarters
RAAF Base
WILLIAMTOWN NSW 2314

IN REPLY QUOTE 5/2/Air (29)

29th March 1973

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. Ths 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)
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..TREVOR JAMES McCOSKER.....Age..22.
2. Address of observer..14...CROYDACE RD...TINGIRA 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
..yrs.....
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?...reasonable.....
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 minor 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 50 cent coin for red glow

15. What were the bearing and elevation angles at nearest approach and how were these values assessed? when first 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?) 50° & not thereafter & 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. ~~his~~ 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? climbed 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

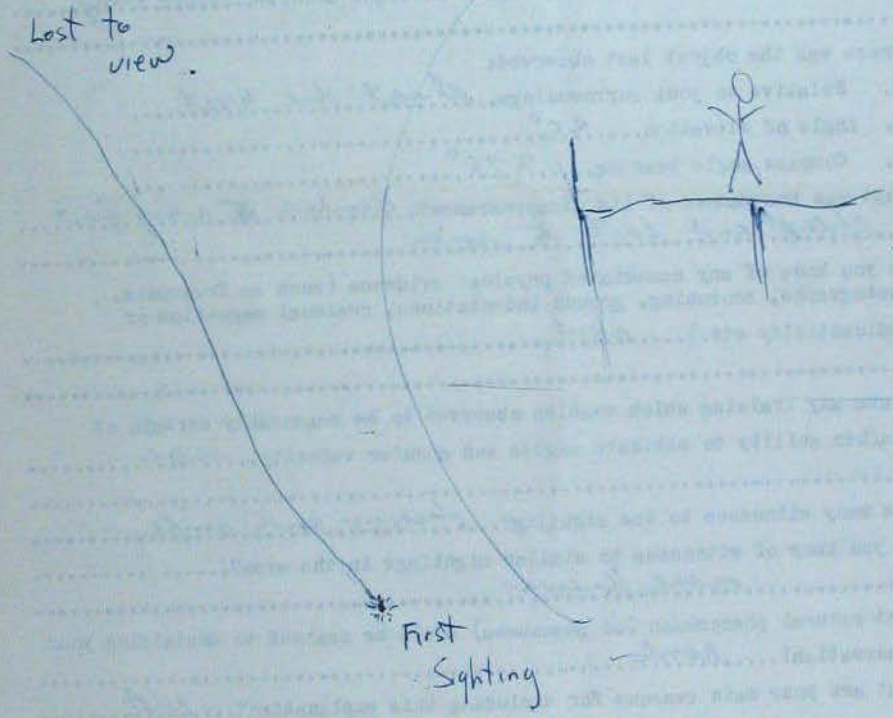
28. Do you know of witnesses to similar sightings in the area? none known

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 McCosker Date. 15-3-73.


Lost to view.
First Sighting

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...MIRAGE.....(1).....MIRAGE.....(2).....(3)

Heading..170...then 270...T...170 then 270 T.....T

Height climbing to ~~34000~~ 31,000 ft.....31,000 ft.....,000 ft

Speed..450K after turn.....K.....K

ATD/~~ATA~~ WLM 1830 hrs..WLM 1830 hrs.....hrs
ATA 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..°C at 2,000 – 3000 ft, measured at.....1100.Z hrs from...WLM.....
~~2,000~~.....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 Mirage aircraft executing a climb with afterburner.

.....HQWLM.....(Unit)...A.F. BLACKBURN.(Name)

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

RESTRICTED

17 MAR 73

SIGHTING # 8

AMBERLEY (Qld) 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

Sgt Capt
DAA
24/4/73

580/1/1 P-2(96)

DEPAIR (DAE.) 3 APR 73

HQAMB 82 WG INTELO YOUR 82 WG 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 Cullen M1 CRETTON FLG OFF 12.2 JAN 08

Royal Australian Air Force
A273 Feb 70 MEMO
For use within the RAAF only
Write or print clearly

FROM: HQAMB	OUR FILE: 82 W 5/9/AIR	FOLIO: 116 (9)
TO: DEPAIR	DATE: 20 MARCH 73	REFERENCES: HQSC 3/6/AIR(22) dated 11 AUG 72; HQOC 5/15/AIR(40) dated 1 DEC 72
	ATTENTION: DAFI - IR	
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	PRINTED NAME	RANK	APPOINTMENT	PHONE EXT
Lindsay J Egan	L. EGAN	Flg Off	A/WIO	2023

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. 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? DEFINATE .....
   How accurate is the time of start. FAIRLY CLOSE WITHIN 10 MINUTES EITHER WAY
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 - WNW DIRECTION .....
   315° (MAG) -285° (+ or - 5°) FROM AIR PHOTOS OF AMB MARRIED QUARTERS PROTRACTOR USED .....
   (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 .....

RESTRICTED

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 KNOTS.

.....

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

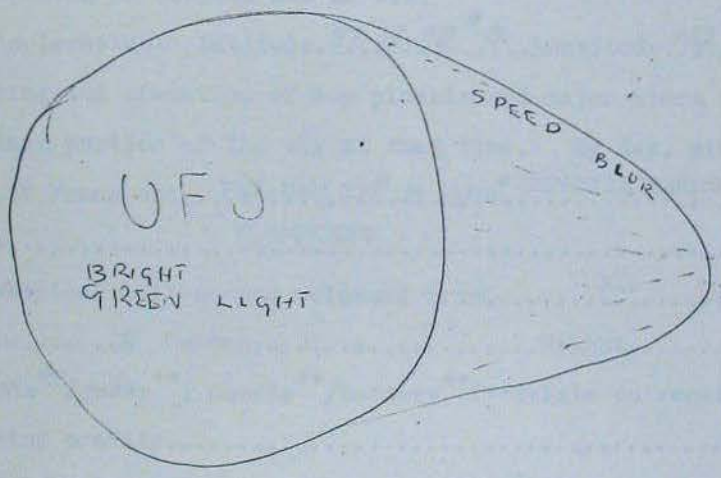
27. How many witness to the sighting? NONE

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 [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.....

.....

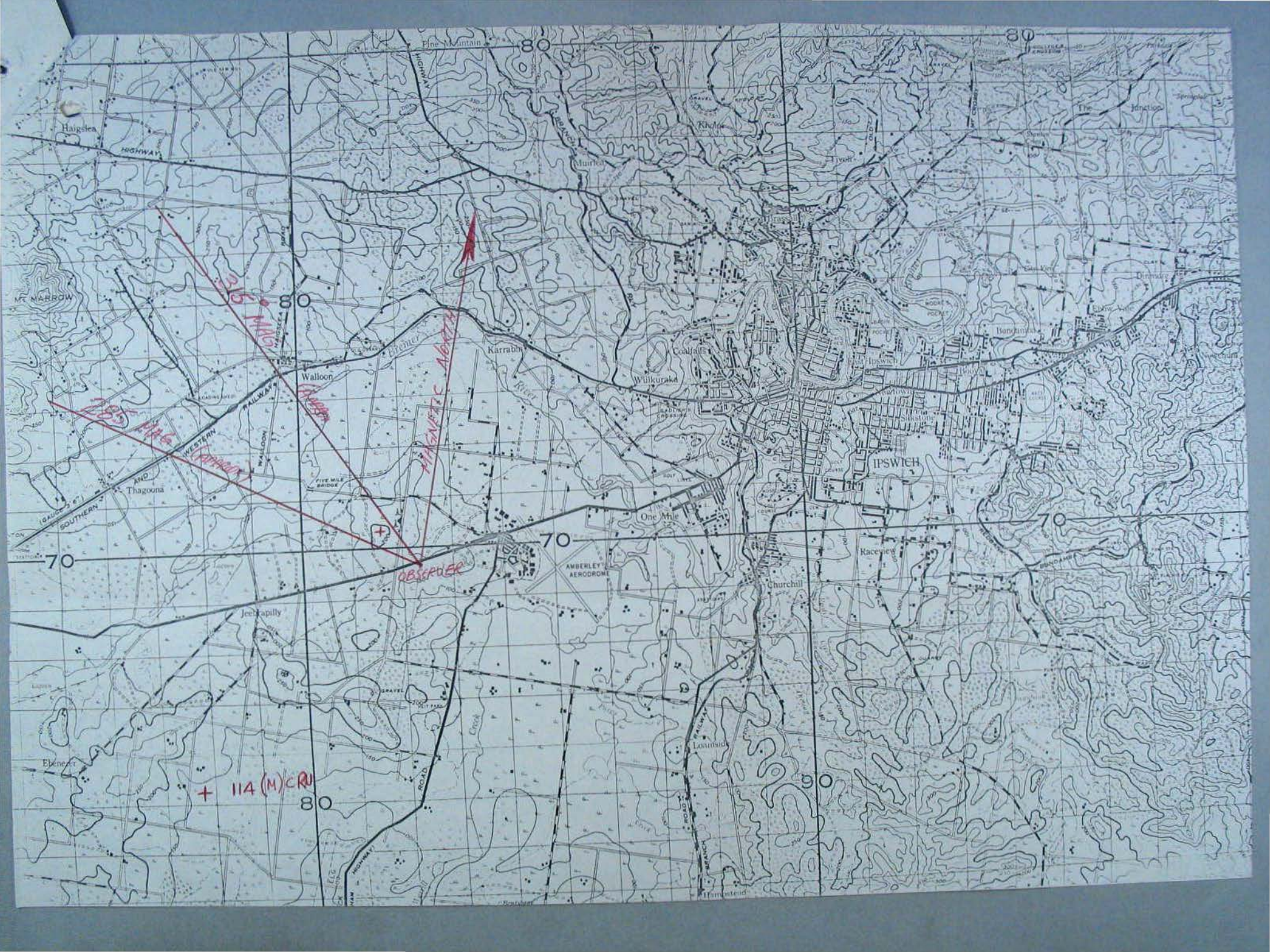
40. The cause (or likely cause) of the sighting can*/cannot* be determined.

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 Sgn (Name)

20th MARCH 1973 (Date) Flg Off (Rank)


Pine Mountain
Haigslea
HIGHWAY
Muirlea
Khedive
The Junction
MT MARROW
Walloon
Karrabin
Brisbane River
Coalfalls
Wulkuraka
Ipswich
Bundamba
IPSWICH
Thagoona
SOUTHERN AND WESTERN RAILWAYS
FIVE MILE BRIDGE
One Mile
AMBERLEY AERODROME
Raceview
Churchill
Jeebropilly
Ebenezer
Limestone
Ironpot Creek
Hamilton
70
80
90
339° MAGNETIC
114 (M) CRS
OBSERVER

11 DEC 72

SIGHTING # 7

DONCASTER MR & MRS K TYLER
VIC

580/1.1 (88)

17 APR 73

DEPAIR (DAF1)

HQSC CINTELLO

Your
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 CRETTON

M. CRETTON / FLG OFF IR-2 2408

S80/1/1 (BA)

16 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

(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

Yplap1
DAF1
13Apr73

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

DEPT. O
580 · 1 · 1
DAFI
8-3-73

TELEPHONE: 69 0550

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"AIRCOMMAND, MELBOURNE"

HEADQUARTERS SUPPORT COMMAND
RAAF
VICTORIA BARRACKS
MELBOURNE SC1 VIC 3004

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

23 MAR 1973

Department of Air (DAFI)

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)
Squadron Leader
For Air Officer Commanding

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

RECEIVED
27 MAR 1973
DAFI

Received 16 MAR 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 21 HARCOURT STREET.

DONCASTER. VICTORIA 3108 ..... Phone 848-3355 602011

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

How accurate is the time of start? 4-0 pm. (checked by electric clock which could vary by 1 min (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

21 HARCOURT ST., DONCASTER 3108 N ↑ [sketch] observer

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 [sketch] ?

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 0 0 (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...heading due East over Dinsdale - Ripwood - Croydon area.....

b. angle of elevation.....

c. compass angle bearing.....

24. What was the manner of its disappearance?...EXTREMELY FAST.....

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.....

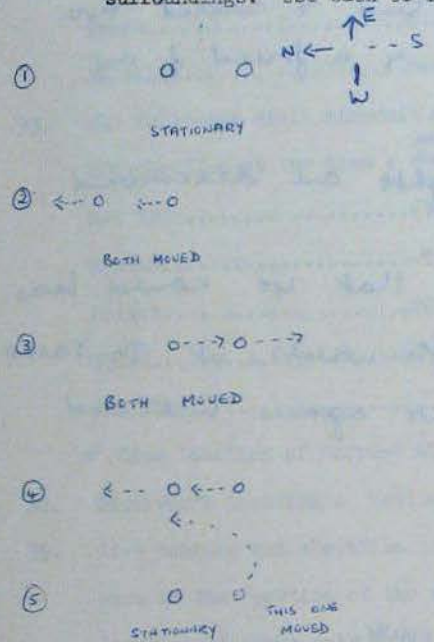
~~RESTRICTED~~

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 visible

30. What are your main reasons for excluding this explanation? No other bodies ~~in the sky~~ or no 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 an sketch position and/or movement of object in relation to your obviously 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. L. Tyler Date 21. 12. 1972

~~RESTRICTED~~

On Sunday, 11th December, between 3.55pm + 4...
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

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 A MONTH 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.....37485.....Longitude.....145 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.....VENUS 265° 042° VIS MAG -3 AT 1600 EAST.....

36. A meteorological balloon was released from .....LAVERTON.....

at.....0500.....Z. Colour.....—.....Weight.....—.....gm

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

General wind profile.....2000' 170/10 3000' 210/10 5000 220/25 7000' 260/22 10000 250/10

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

Was it known to have burst? —

37. The first significant temperature inversion was of .....4.....°C at .....4000.....ft, measured at.....0001.....Z hrs from..... .....TULLA.....station. MET. SAY THAT EFFECTS FROM THIS INVERSION WOULD BE FAIRLY 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 afternoons 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 8th December.

..... HQSC .....(Unit)..... R. R. ROOST .....(Name)

..... 23 MAR 73 .....(Date)..... SQN LDR .....(Rank)

~~RESTRICTED~~

24 FEB 73

SIGHTING #6

LEONGATHA VIC

MR. R.J. SANDERS

23 MAR 1973

580/1/1 Pt 21 (7A)

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 Ø, and Saturn was on a bearing of 330°T, elevation 032° and magnitude Ø. 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

(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

Typed
DSH
27/Mar 73

580/1/1 R-21 (78)

28 MAR 73

DEPAIR (DAFI)

HQSC CINTELO

Your 5/6/1/AIR(37) 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. Cretton

M. CRETTON FLG OFF IR-3 2+8

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

DEPT. OF AIR
DAFI
580-1-1
83-13
FOLIO 7

TELEPHONE: 690550

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)
Squadron Leader
For Air Officer Commanding

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

RECEIVED
23 MAR 1973
DAFI

Received 16 MAY 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 Richard J. Sanders Age 65

2. Address of observer Duncans Rd. Longatha South 3957

Phone Inverloch 253

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?.....

~~RESTRICTED~~

Somewhere around 9.30 hrs on the evening of 24 Feb 73 I noticed a light about [redacted] 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 Strzeleckis. 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 dingy".

It seemed to be descending as it moved away bearing slightly to the West from an 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 Sound track road joins the Inverloch-Leongatha road. Reference to a road map seems to confirm that our line of sight to the stationary "light" would go through the town of Loch on the Silt 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 Bass & South Gippsland Highways. While I was still watching it took off bearing northerly & disappearing as a low orbit could have taken it to the point where the 24 Feb sighting was headed.

2. Helicopter

[signature]

5/3/73.

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.....38.37S.....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 { CAPELLA 345° 010° VIS MAG 0 / SATURN 328° 032° VIS MAG 0 / ALDEBARAN 320° 033° VIS MAG 1 }.....

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 at .....ft, 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

~~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)

..... CAPELLA .....

Because of the duration of this observation, aircraft, met balloons, satellite, rocket, comet and meteorites have been disregarded as possible causes of this sighting. A bearing from Mr Sanders home through the town of Lodi would make his line of observation 355°? 340°? 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 Monteagle area who saw something 'within the past few weeks' which could tie in with this sighting.]

.....HQ SC.....(Unit).....R.R. RODDY.....(Name)

.....20 MAR 73.....(Date).....SQN LDR.....(Rank)

~~RESTRICTED~~

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

10 MAR 78

SIGHTING # 5

CHARLESTOWN MRB, 1 COPAS
N SW

580/1/1 Pt 21 (GB)

23 MAR 73

DEFAIR (DAF1)

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. Rutter M.CRETTON FNCOFF IR2 24-08

6A

6D

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

(G.J.ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

MDAFS
18 Apr 73

580/1/1 Pt 21 (6A)

1 Berning Place
Charlestown.
11-4-73.

To
Director of Public Relations
Dept. Air,

Dear Mr Odgers,

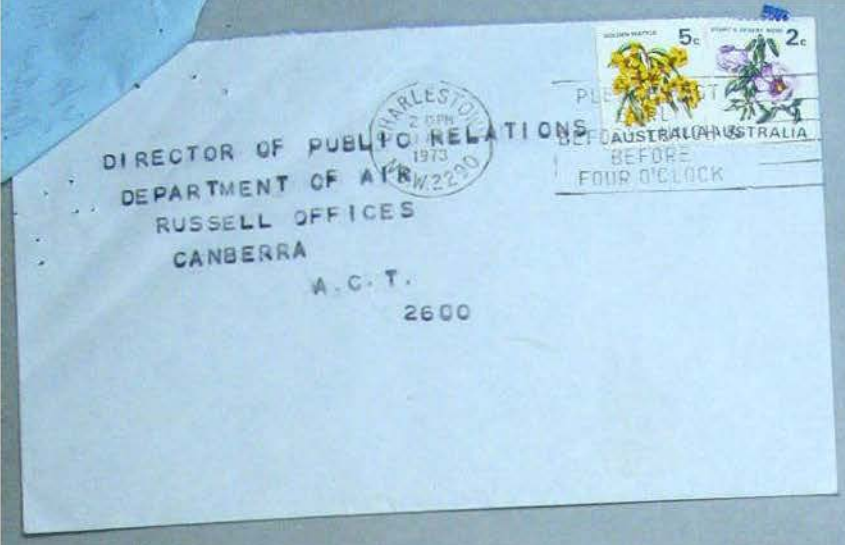
I am in receipt of your letter dated 27-3-73 and appreciate very much the time you have spent on my report.

I agree, your conclusions that it would seem to be Of 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 B/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.

L. Copas.



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

DAA
23 Mar 73

RESTRICTED

DEPT. OF AIR
580 4-1
DAFI 8-3-73
BOX 6

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

TELEPHONE: Newcastle 65 1221

Headquarters
RAAF Base
WILLIAMTOWN NSW 2314

15th March 1973

IN REPLY QUOTE 5/2/Air(18)

The Secretary
Department of Air
Russell Offices
CANBERRA ACT 2600

DAFI

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, althouth 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

RECEIVED
20 MAR 1973
DAFI

RECEIVED
19 MAR 1973
AIR REGISTRY
CANBERRA

2240

G/P Dolan Solm

532
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+47

2825
2902
+77

39 36
39 35
0 -1

REPORT ON UNUSUAL AE

Part I - Report b

(As a preliminary to completing this for
the sighting in his or her own manner, u
of this form.)

MASTER BA

1. Name of observer... M.R.S... I.S
2. Address of observer... I. BIR
.....
3. Occupation of observer... HOM
4. Date and time of start of obse
How certain is the date?..
How accurate is the time
5. Duration of observation... 6...
How accurate is your estim
6. Observer's location at time of

(2)

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 ..... 433904 ..... Phone 433094
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... TASCO 6T TELESCOPE WITH 2.5 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

60 60 60 60 3600 4320 1020

/17. Describe

(2)

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 movement 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)....PANAM.....(3)
Heading.....T....247?....T....247?....T
Height.....,000 ft....?....,000 ft....?....,000 ft
Speed.....K....?....K....?....K
ATD/ATA*.....hrs.54 0605.....hrs.54 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 25° 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

.....HQWLM.....(Unit)...A.F.BLACKBURN.....(Name)

.....15 MARCH 1973.....(Date)....FLT LT.....(Rank)

14 JAN 73

SIGHTING #4

SURFERS PARADISE Mrs I.G. AWEMP
(Qld)

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

(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

Explan
DATI
20 Mar 73

580/1/1 Pt 2 (58)

22 MAR 73

DEFAIR (DAFI)

HQAMB 82WG 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 Snipers Paradise.

M Cretton

M. CRETTON FLG OFF IR-2 2408

(5)

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

580-1-1

TELEPHONE: Ipswich 803911 Ext 2503

Headquarters
RAAF Base
AMBERLEY QLD 4305

IN REPLY QUOTE 82W/5/9/Air (111)

15th March 1973

Department of Air (DAFI)

For Information:

Headquarters Operational Command (Attn: CIO)

AMPLIFICATION OF UFO REPORT

Reference: A. 82W/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.

RECEIVED
19 MAR 1973
DAFI

580/1/1(48)

17 APR 72

DEPAIR (DAFI)

HQ AMS

BQ W INTELO

Your 5K9/AIR(105) dated 6 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 Chandler

M. GRETTON FLT OFF IR-2 2408

S80/1/1 (49)

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 logival 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

(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

4 yp Capt
DAH
13/4/73

Royal Australian Air Force
A273 Feb 70 **MEMO**

For use within the RAAF only
Write or print clearly

FROM HQAMB	OUR FILE 82W 5/9/Air	FOLIO 105
TO SECRETARY DEPARTMENT OF AIR (DAFI)	DATE 8 MAR 73	REFERENCES HBSC 3/6/Air (27) 11 Aug 72
SUBJECT UFO REPORTS	ATTENTION	

FORWARDED ARE TWO COPIES OF UFO REPORTS.

RECEIVED
13 MAR 1973
DAFI

SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	RANK	APPOINTMENT	PHONE EXT
Paul T. Davison	P. T. DAVISON	FLG OFF	N/O	2023

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. 10. The Esplanade .....
Surfers Paradise ..... Phone. 390033 ...
3. Occupation of observer. House-wife .....
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 2½ 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?....n.o.....

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 on 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..Shawellburg in.....

(b) angle of elevation..northerly 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.... N/L.....

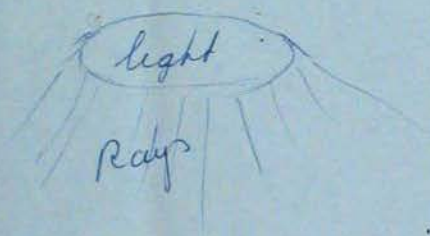
27. How many witness to the sighting?....N/L. from my post.

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..P.P. Alemp..... 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...N.I.L.....(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.....N.I.L...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.I.L direction wrong.
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 at .....ft, 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.....

.....N/L 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).....A.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~~*/cannot* be determined.

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

.....

N of H

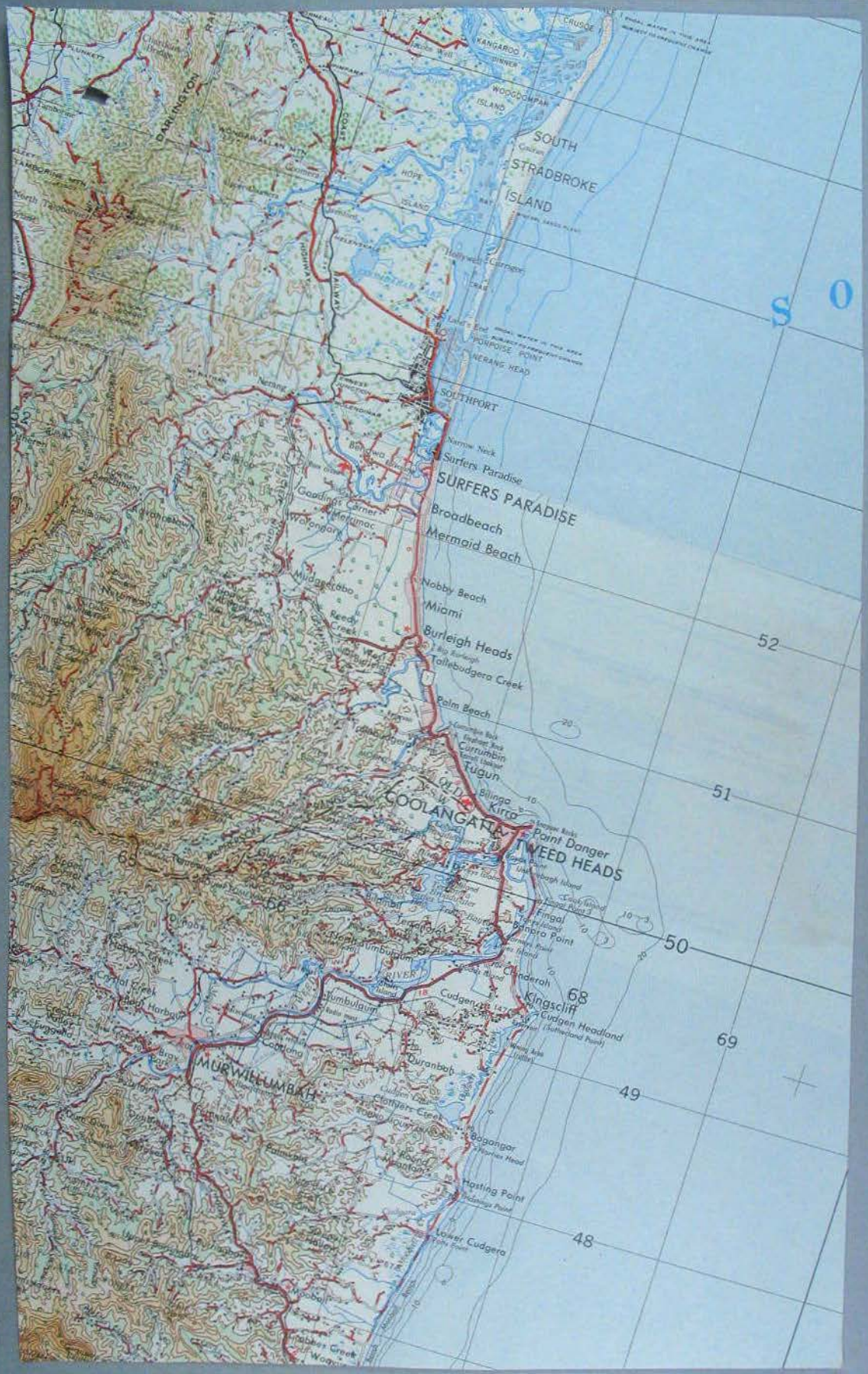
ch heavy rain

Kong Amberley re more info.
blocks required from Toolangatta,
Kamanga, & light a/c operators,
especially helicopters.

14 MAR 73.

AVISON.....(Name)

OFF.....(Rank)


SOUTH
STRADBROKE
ISLAND
SOUTHPORT
SURFERS PARADISE
Broadbeach
Mermaid Beach
Nobby Beach
Miami
Burleigh Heads
Palm Beach
Tugun
COOLANGATTA
TWEED HEADS
Point Danger
Kirra
Bilinga
Currumbin
Tallebudgera Creek
Reedy Creek
Elanora
Tweed River
Fingal
Cudgen
Kingscliff
Cudgen Headland
MURWILLUMBAH
Durranbah
Bogangar
Hastling Point
Lower Cudgera
Round Mountain
Clothiers Creek
Cudgera Creek
Terranora
Tumbulgum
Chinderah
Coolangatta
Nerang
Narrow Neck
Surfers Paradise
Goodings Corner
Merrimac
Molendinar
Currumbin Rock
Pinnacle Rock
Currumbin
Tugun
Bilinga
Kirra
Point Danger
Tweed River
Fingal
Fingal Point
Bogangar
Hastings Point
Lower Cudgera
Cudgera Creek
Round Mountain
Clothiers Creek
Durranbah
Cudgen
Kingscliff
Cudgen Headland
Chinderah
Tumbulgum
Terranora
Coolangatta
Nerang
Narrow Neck
Surfers Paradise
Broadbeach
Mermaid Beach
Nobby Beach
Miami
Burleigh Heads
Tallebudgera Creek
Palm Beach

14 ~~MAR~~ JAN 73

SIGHTING # 3

COOLANGATTA R NICOL
QLD

(4)

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. Robert Nicol ..... Age 23..
2. Address of observer. 176 Wyong Rd. 043
..Killarney Vale 2263 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? CERTIN TO WITHIN MINUTES
6. Observer's location at time of sighting. PT. DANGER .....
..lookout Coolangatta - Old. .....
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..... (APPX) 0-10° RIGHT .....
c. Compass angle bearing... NOT KNOWN .....
d. How accurate are these estimates? quite certin .....
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.
14. What was the apparent size at nearest approach: light clear + Bright Ambulance light at APPX
a. Relative to Venus or Moon. No object VISABLE, 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

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. RIGHT 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 distances. 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 WATCH TICKING

22. Describe any trail of exhaust, vapour or light seen.
NONE.

23. Where was the object last observed:
a. Relative to your surroundings. Above Surfers Paradise (north).
b. Angle of elevation. 0° (MID SKY)
c. Compass angle bearing. 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 [signature] 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....N.I.L.....(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 wrong 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 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*/~~cannot~~* be determined.

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

?

.....

N of A

Kang AFB re more info re possible helicopter operations not notified to Eagle Farm.

14 MAR 78

.....SON.....(Name)

.....(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 gold coast.

After some twenty minutes the chick I was with suggested we walk up to the harbor beam light house, 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 Coolangatta 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 ~~west~~ south to east. It was pointing directly east, at us. + stoped, it then faded out quickley. I then drew the chicks attension 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 ~~colour~~ intensity of

the white light. It stayed in this stationary position for about three minuets. the light then began to move in a North Easterly Directon 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 slowed down and made movements similar to a yatch Tacking, left then right + repeated this all movements were of the same distance. The light then changed course and headed towards Surfers 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 ft Danger and walked

through Rainbow Bay and up to the top of the hill at Greenmount, the light was still visable 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 girls) 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 [redacted] Freundship 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 (~~letter~~) later.

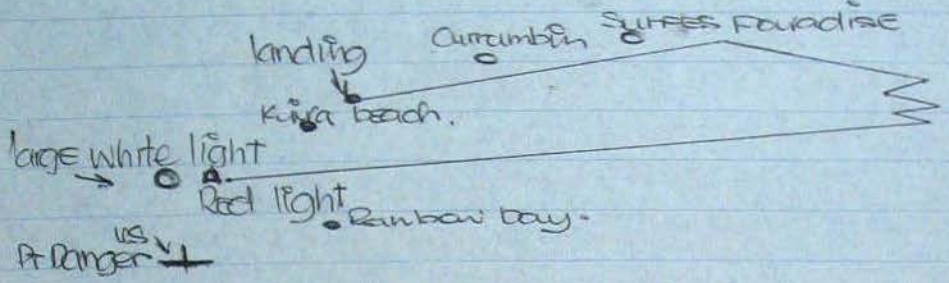
On our return some two hours later he told us that as there had been so many crimes committed during the blackout he had not had an opportunity to investigate, but assured us that he would do something when time permitted.

The time @ was near 1 am, we returned to the guesthouse, and at around 3am 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 neared 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 attension to these lights, but as we passed by a hundred yards or so we stopped and had a further look, a noticable 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 Ballina

The names and address's of all witnesses, can be supplied if required.



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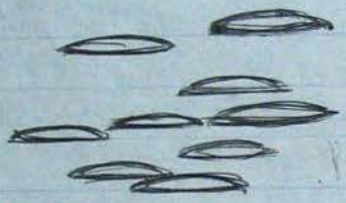
lights Seen NEAR Balina all STATIONARY on the ground



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

light patch of TREES by roadside

Highway → South 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 your for your report.

Yours faithfully,

G. J. Odgers

(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

Explan
DAS
4 Apr 73

580/1/1 Pt 21 (38)

5 APR 73

DEPAIR (DAFI)

HQSC CINTELLO Your 5/6/1/AIR (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 FNG OFF IR-2 2 Apr 73

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 SC1 VIC 3004

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

5 MAR 1973

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)
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 ~~RESTRICTED~~ the red colour, but my husband says colour was amber to orange.

K 5/6/73 CJWO

13. What was the brightness? (compare with full moon or common light source at a stated distance, eg ordinary street light at 100 yards)... Slightly greater intensity than sodium street light.....

14. What was the apparent size at nearest approach?:

a. relative to Venus or Moon... Too low to compare with Venus or Moon.

b. relative dimensions in inches at arm's length (about 20 inches from the eyes)... Difficult to assess - perhaps 10"...

15. What were the bearing and elevation angles at nearest approach and how were these values assessed?... It passed almost directly over us. Assessed by visual observation only.

16. Was any method of propulsion obvious?... None at all...

17. Describe any sound heard, including changes in pitch and intensity No sound at all; this was strange as the object was practically over us at one stage, and appeared not to be very high in the sky.....

18. What was the maximum and minimum angle of elevation (or height, if an estimate can be justified)?... Height when over us could have been as low as 500 ft, feel sure it wasn't as high as 1,000 ft,

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 It moved slowly, appeared almost to hover above us. I suppose a helicopter could move as slowly, later it moved faster.....

It seemed to hover for 1-2 mins.

20. Give duration of any stationary phases.....

21. Describe any deviations or manoeuvres... when it turned in what I judge to be the Preston area. Travelled slowly out in vicinity of Preston, gaining altitude gradually, reached a point where it hovered, then turned back towards city and then looked like a star, but more orange.

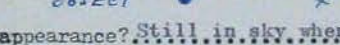
22. Describe any trail of exhaust, vapour or light seen.... No exhaust, but while overhead there was a sort of aura above the object - my husband thought he saw the rotation of a rotor.

23. Where was object last observed :

a. relative to your surroundings... Approx. over Footscray, high in the sky.

b. angle of elevation... High in sky, about size of a star, but more orange in colour, it formed a triangle at one stage with two large stars in west, thus -

c. compass angle bearing...



24. What was the manner of its disappearance? Still in sky when we decided to go home.

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 witness to the sighting?... 5 - 4 women, 1 man.....

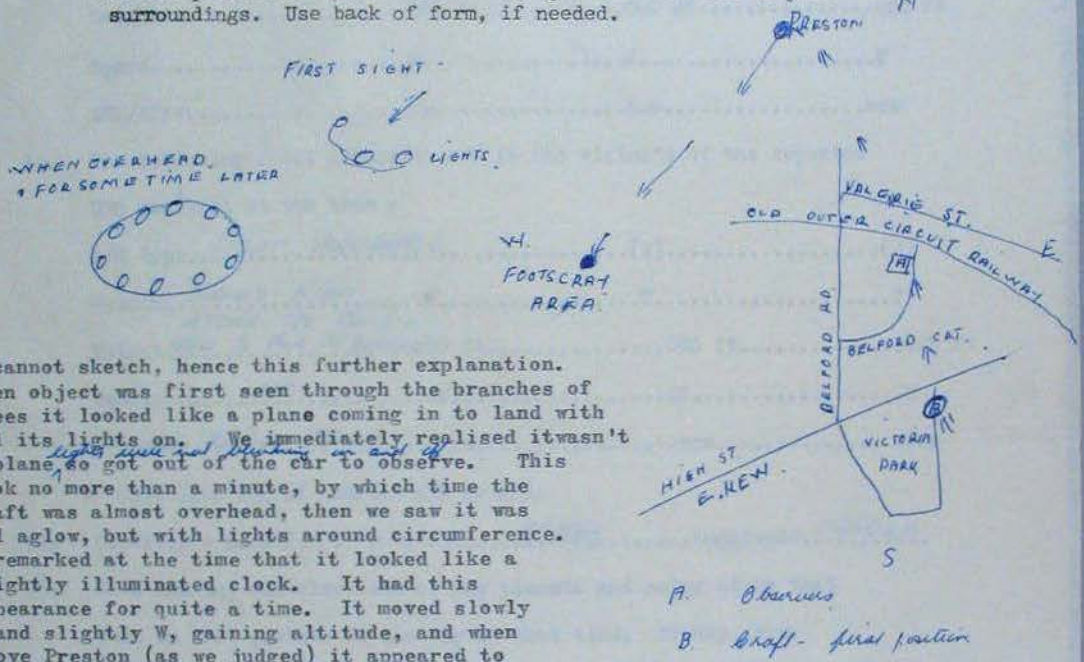
~~RESTRICTED~~

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. We immediately realised itwasn'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.

Signature...Elaine L. George... Date...21st February 1973

~~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).....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 TKO RWY 04.....T.....T.....T

Height..HDG S FOR PT CRAWFORD,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....37.48S.....Longitude..145.02E.

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 0 020°AZ 052°EL AT 2200. VENUS MAG -4 285°AZ 010°EL AT 2200

36. A meteorological **balloon** was released from .....LAVERTON.....

at...1000.....Z. Colour...BLACK.....Weight.....gm

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

General wind profile..MELB AREA SSE 6 KTS...LAVERTON UPPER WINDS 2000 160/5, 3000 150/10 5000 140/12 7K 140/10 10K 250/12 12K 240/8

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

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

37. The first significant temperature inversion was of .....2-3.....°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 a/c out of TULLA at 2200 can be discounted, as its heading was almost the exact reciprocal of the object as first reported by obs G. The next a/c 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 this sighting. I spoke to obs 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 a/c 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 ie by sending aloft illuminated balloons.

..... HQSC .....(Unit)..... R Moody .....(Name)

..... 2 MAR 73 .....(Date)..... FLT LT .....(Rank)

4 FEB 73

SIGHTING # 1

KIMBA
SA

B. L. HUNT

5201/1 Pt 21 (22)

DEFAIR (DAFI)

2 MAY 73

HQ ESN F10

YOUR 6/13/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 Cullen Mr. Cretton FLGOFF IR 2 9408

580/1/1 Pt21 (2C)

- 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,

G. J. Odgers

(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

Yplapl
30/4/73

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

15 Apr 73

2B

Mr. DUGGINS,
Director of Public Relations,
Dept. of Air,
CANBERRA

REFERENCE: 980/1/1 (2a)

I apologise for the delay in answering your letter dated 15/3/73. I have been on Annual leave, interstate, and returned home on 10/4/73.

The 'Polygonum Tanks' have been in ruins for many years. Their is only one such tank remaining. It is on it's 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 10 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.G.I.O. [redacted] 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 'independant' reports of a similar nature, in the same place, at the same time as HUNT's sighting. A local farmer, apparently travelling in front of HUNT 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 HUNT. I also believe that a truck-driver, [redacted] of Caduna, saw the same UFO as described by HUNT. This person was travelling behind HUNT. All three sightings apparently occurred within a period of about 15 minutes. All witnesses are reliable.

P.H. SUMMERTON
P.O.S. 1751/2

PIMBA
12/4/73

2A

13MAR73

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

(G.J. ODGERS)
Director of Public Relations

Dated 8 March 73

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

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

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

RECD
6 MAR 1973
DAFI

POLICE HEADQUARTERS
ADELAIDE
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

S.A.POLICE

THIS FOLIO
PREVIOUS | SUB

REC'D. 16 FEB 1973

YOUR REF. 15/3/192244

Hq 44, February 1973

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.

Yours faithfully,

E.L. Calder
Assistant Commissioner
(Operations)

Enc:

		INFO
REPLY DIRECT BY		
Copy for info HQEDN		
REPLY TO HQEDN BY		
SUBMIT REPLY FOR ORIGINATOR'S SIGNATURE BY		
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS		

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

Officer in Charge,
No 21 Division,
WHYALLA

No. 10/24/316

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 man 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.

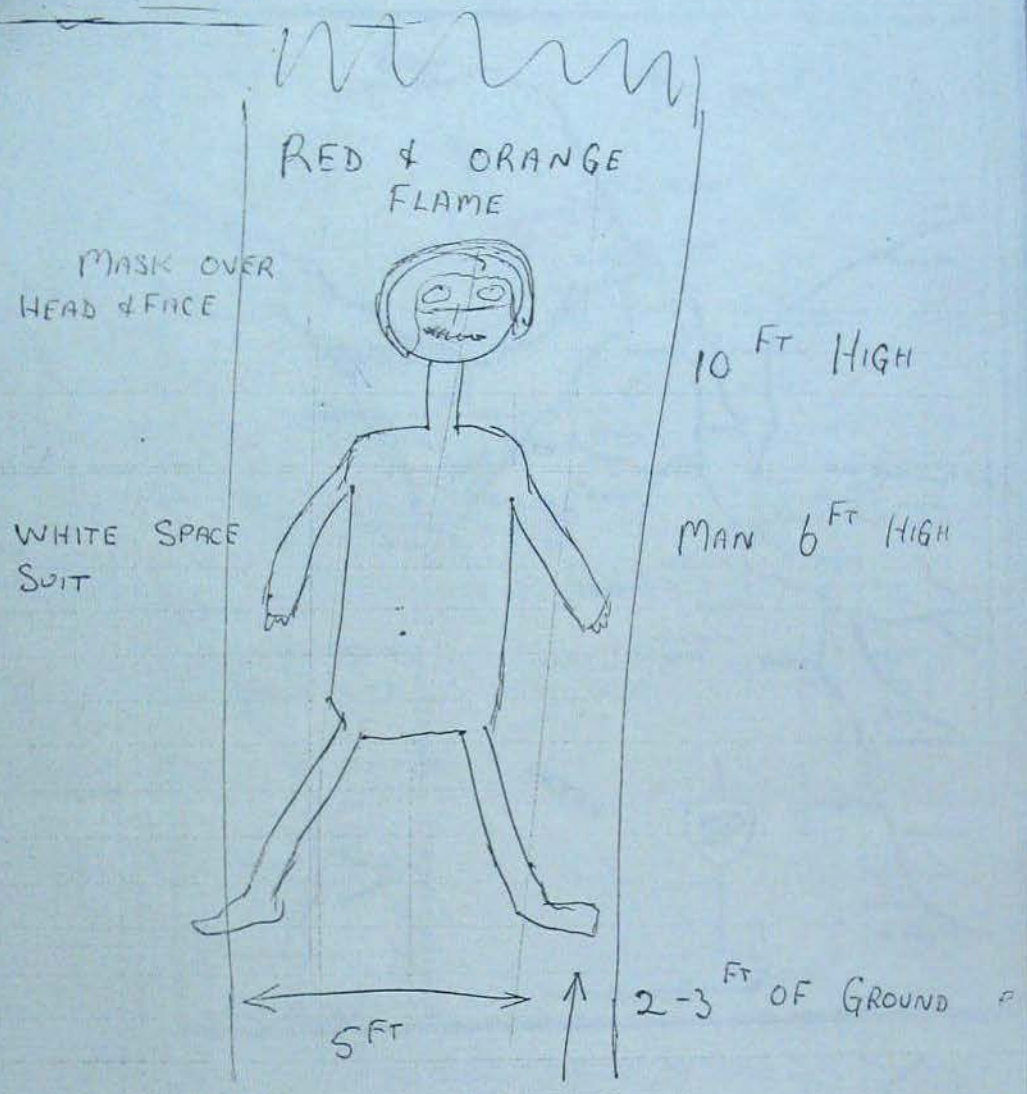
5. HUNT is quite well known to me. He is a responsible type of person and is absolutely convinced that he saw the described light. He reported the matter to Kimba Police at about 10.45pm on 4/2/73. S.C.I.C. Humphrys and I returned to the scene with HUNT at about 11.30pm. A search of the area was made 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.

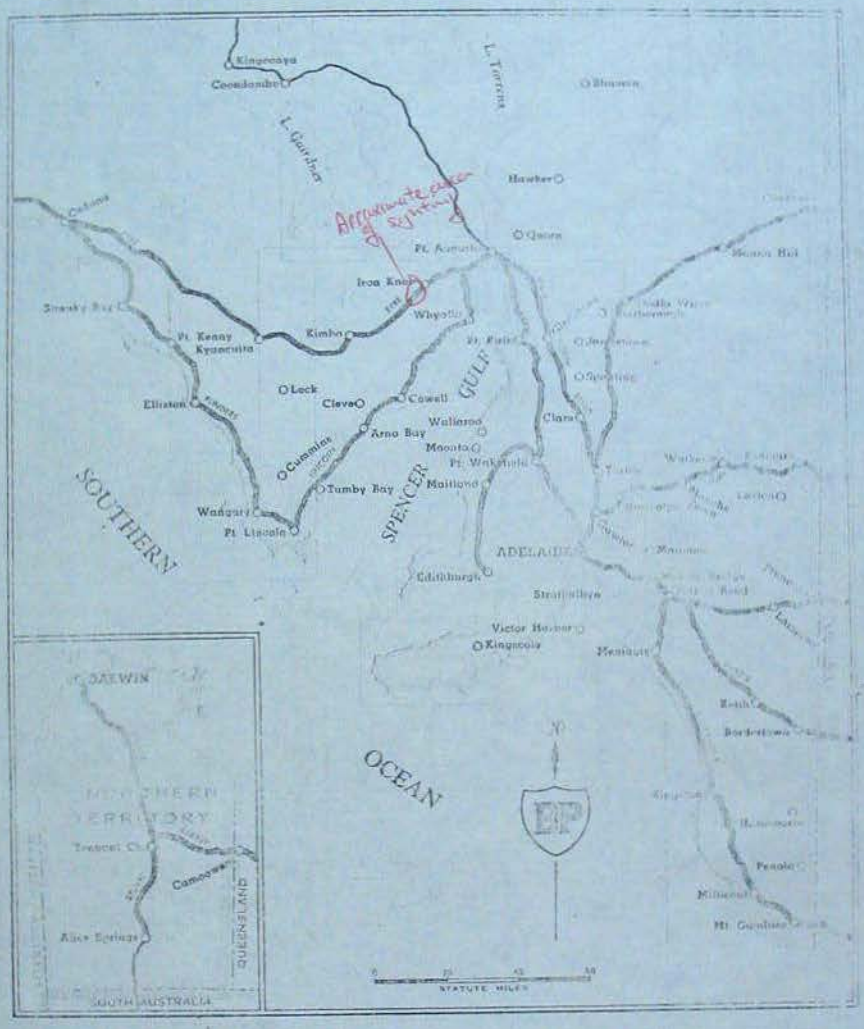
KIMBA
5/2/73

P.H. SUMMERTON
Const 1751


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!

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SUBJECT INDEX

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10187/72—4

F. D. Atkinson, Government Printer, Canberra

DEPARTMENT OF AIR

FILE No	PART	TITLE
580 / 1 / 1	21	REPORTS ON FLYING SAUCERS AND OTHER AERIAL OBJECTS.

ARCHIVAL ACTION

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~~Maxwell~~	~~file~~	~~8373~~	~~GB~~				
DAFI	file	8373					
PA 73	file	28NOV80					
D/G to Restricted							

FILE No 580 / 1 / 1 / 21

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

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AD AIR	580	T	1	21

SUBJECT: REPORTS ON FLYING SAUCERS AND OTHER APPARENT OBJECTS

Folio	Referred to	Date Referred	Actioned by (Initls)
	~~PA 73~~	28.11.80	
	PA 80	2	
	DAFIS	26/1/82	✓
FILE	PUT AWAY	1/8/84	
	PA 73		

Folio	Referred to	Date Referred	Actioned by (Initls)

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ARCHIVAL ACTION

FILE No

AD AIR	580	1	1