

UFO Stalks Two Boys Near Whitehorse

Whitehorse, YT - January, 1968

Flying Saucers Magazine

UFO Investigator

UFO Report

Canadian UFO Report

John Musgrave had several articles referencing a sighting near Yukon by two young men while they were on their snowmobiles. Most of the sightings were brief mentions from various UFO magazines, but the Canadian UFO Report article was more detailed, and contained in-person eyewitness comments from one of the witnesses. There were a few discrepancies among the articles.

The "Flying Saucers", "UFO Investigator" and the "UFO Report" had the date as Jan. 2, but the "Canadian UFO Report" had the date as Jan. 5. As mentioned, the Canadian UFO Report talked to one witness directly and also mentioned a nearby sighting that occurred the night before (Jan 4) at Atlin Lake, so this date, Jan 5, is probably correct.

One magazine mentions both snowmobile motors stopping, three magazines mention only 1 motor stopping and the Canadian UFO Report only mentions one of the witnesses thinking at one point his snowmobile might have been "slowing down a bit".

**"1968 Worldwide UFO Roundup" Flying Saucers, April 1969, No. 63, p. 26.
January 2, 1968 - Whitehorse, Yukon,
Canada - HEAT EFFECTS . . INTERFERENCES**

At four o'clock Tom Banks and Errol Smyth were cruising in their snowmobiles when they saw a pulsating orange-yellow UFO near the treetops. Electromagnetic

interferences occurred when both snowmobile motors stopped and both eyewitnesses felt an unusual heat coming from the UFO overhead.

**UFO Investigator (NICAP) Vol. 4, No. 6. May-June 1968, p. 3.
January 2, 1968 - Whitehorse, Yukon,**

Several 1968 reports describe EM (electromagnetic) interference effects from nearby UFOs. One case occurred on Jan. 2, in Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada. About 4 p.m. Tom Banks and Errol Smyth were cruising in their snowmobiles when they spotted a pulsating orange-yellow UFO just over the treetops. Its radiance, they said, was brighter than the sun. Banks reported that his snowmobile stopped and he felt an unusual heat-both effects supposedly from the UFO. The strange object quickly disappeared, after which the snowmobile functioned normally.

**George Eberhart. "Flying Saucers Over the Arctic"
UFO Report, Fall 1975, Vol. 2, No. 5. p. 58
January 2, 1968 - Whitehorse, Yukon**

On Jan. 2, 1968, Tom Banks and Errol Smyth reported a low-flying, orange-yellow light near Whitehorse in the Yukon. They were riding their snowmobiles when they saw the UFO, which was brighter than the sun, hovering at treetop level. Banks felt "unusual heat" and his snowmobile stopped running until the object disappeared.

**Mark Rodeghier. (The UFO Investigator, Vol. 4, No. 6)
UFO Report Involving Vehicle Interference (1981). p. 40.
January 2, 1968 - Whitehorse, Yukon,**

Two snowmobile drivers observed a pulsating, orange-yellow object nearby. This object was extremely bright. One of the snowmobile's engines stalled during the sighting and its driver felt increased heat. The object shortly moved out of sight and the snowmobile could be restarted.

**Canadian UFO Report. Vol. 1, No. 1, Jan-Feb. 1969. pp. 1-3.
January 5, 1968 - Whitehorse, Yukon,**

UFO Stalks Two Boys

Filed with the RCMP at Whitehorse is a report of a UFO sighting that must rate as something of a classic because of the proximity of the object, the details given by the two observers and the apparent interest of the object in what they were doing. The incident occurred under a cloudless sky late in the afternoon of January 5, 1968, temperatures a few degrees above zero. The observers were Tommy Banks, 15, and Errol Smythe, 17, both of Whitehorse.

Errol was not available during our brief visit to that Yukon city, but we spoke to Tommy who told us how the two of them had spent the afternoon touring the lower slopes of Grey's Mountain on their Skidoos. These slopes on the northwest outskirts of Whitehorse are studded with spruce trees and with two or three feet of snow in the winter, are ideal for this kind of sport. The woods are not too dense, and the slopes are gradual.

Tommy continued:

"It was just beginning to get dark and we had our lights on, though it was still clear enough to see everything, when we decided to start for home. Errol went first and I was following close enough to see him all the time until we came to a small knoll and for a few seconds I lost sight of him."

"As I went up the knoll I felt a sort of heat and when I got to the top I saw this bright thing moving just over the trees slightly behind Errol. It seemed to be following him. Just then Errol looked back - he thought it was my light at first - and he saw it, too."

We asked Tommy to draw a sketch of what he saw. It was an egg-shaped object with two distinct bands of luminous color following the lines of its circumference. The outside band was red and inside this was one of yellowish-orange. In the center the two colors seemed to blend and move in what Tommy described as a "pulsating" manner. The object, about 10 by 20 feet and flying horizontally, was noiseless. Although bright, its glow was not sufficient to penetrate the darkness under the trees.

"I saw it for about 10 seconds before it disappeared over the trees, and I guess Errol saw it for a little less than that," Tony said. "When I felt the heat it seemed to me that my Skidoo was slowing down a bit. Maybe it was just because I was excited, but it definitely felt that way."

After they had sped home and reported their experience, Errol's father and a friend, a clergyman, went to examine the spot where the sighting occurred. But the object and left no visible evidence. In that frigid temperature its heat apparently was not sufficient to affect the surface of the snow.

On Errol, however, the effect was more definite. Unlike Tommy he had no previous interest in the subject of UFOs and understandably was perhaps the more upset of the two, with the result he missed the following day of school. For Tommy the experience was also disturbing, but interesting. He had read numerous accounts of UFOs, written about them for school work and now had a unique personal encounter to add to his material.

Unknown to either of the boys at the time a similar object was seen the night before (4 January 1968) over Atlin lake, 100 miles southeast of Whitehorse.



Errol Smythe looked back, thinking the light must be coming from the snowmobile of his friend, Tommy Banks. But there above the trees was a bright egg-shaped object with luminous bands of red and orange-yellow. In the center these bands seemed to merge and pulsate. The boys felt heat from the object and Tommy had the impression his snowmobile slowed down. Flying silently and evidently interested in what the boys were doing, the object remained in sight for several seconds before disappearing behind the trees. Unknown to the pair a similar object had been seen the night before 100 miles away.

Source: <https://ufobc.ca/Reports/MusgraveFiles/>