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UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT SIGHTINGS

NT NEWS 2/4/74

UFO sightings are on increase

There has been a 16-fold increase in reports of Unidentified Flying Objects in Australia says a spokesman for the RAAF, which is investigating the reports.

So far this year more than 200 UFOs have been sighted, compared with only 600 in the previous 12 years.

The recent Darwin sigh[illegible] during the course of which a News photographer successfully photographed the object which had been seen by more than a score of people over the Casuarina area of the city was not included in this number.

A RAAF official said the file on the sightings over Casuarina had been sent south.

Although they will eventually arrive in Canberra, the centre for study of UFO reports on sightings, the Darwin file has first to be sent to RAAF Operational Command in Sydney.

On an average, the RAAF is able to write off 93 per cent of all sightings reported. But seven per cent remain a mystery.

Investigations into the latest sightings have not yet been completed, but RAAF information shows a spate of sightings over Tasmania, and reports from Papua New Guinea for the first time.

The number of sightings classified as unknown or under investigation include:

- A Department of Civil Aviation official's sighting at Sydney Airport on May 18, last year, of a silvery-grey object travelling at high speed toward the north-west.
- A strange flashing red and white light reported over Targa on April 7 and 13, 1973.
- The sighting at Lynwood, Western Australia of a large green-glowing object in the northern sky on May 29.

The Darwin sightings were made in late February, so it would seem we still have a long time to wait before the RAAF rates them.

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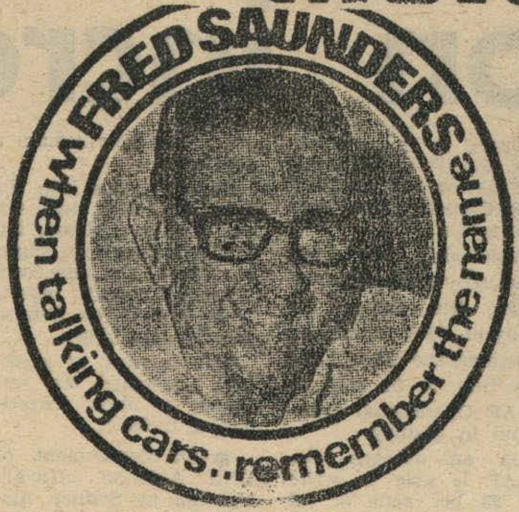
MOTORWORLD



START THE DRY
RIGHT! DRIVE A
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SUN HERALD 31/3/74

RAAF PROBES REPORTS OF UFOs 'SEEN' IN AUST

By JACK PERCIVAL

RAAF Intelligence is probing reports of unidentified flying object (UFO) sighting in Australia.

All reported sightings, by commercial aircraft crews and people in Tasmania, West Australia and the Northern Territory, have been at night. They range from hovering round and oval to cigar-shaped objects, which have disappeared into the sky at high speed.

There have been other reports of noise like the sound of jet aircraft, but no sign of navigation lights, high in the sky over central and north Australia.

Puzzling

Inquiries have established that at the time there were no military exercises in progress from Amberley or Darwin.

A high-ranking RAAF officer admitted yesterday that some of the UFO reports were "puzzling in the ectreme."

"But some people have vivid imaginations and the more you question them the more their stories sound like science fiction."

Reports received by the Air Transport Group of the new Federal Transport Department will be sent to the RAAF for sifting.

An air force operations officer said: "There are so many man-made satellites periodically speeding over Australia these days that people get confused. They can't sort out the nuts and bolts from other phenomena."

An Air Transport Group spokesman said: "We have received a remarkable number of reports so far this year — about three times the number filed in the same period last year."

Dr D. Hervison-Evans, lecturer in computer science at Sydney University, said: "Ninety-nine per cent of the reports are mistaken identification. There is no evidence thst craft of the types described in the reports are being developed on earth. If they were they would be developed for military purposes.

"Scientists are more interested in facts than words. However, there is a possibility that there is life on other plants away from our constellation."

Ninety-three per cent of UFO reports received in Australia since last year have been explained.

Fragments

Some sightings have been burnt-out fragments of rockets fired by American and Soviet agencies.

Since 1957, 7,000 rockets and space vehicles have been launched and about 3,000 of them are still in orbit.

All will re-enter earth's atmosphere, glow wit friction, trail fiery tails . . . and be reported as UFOs.

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4	2080	338	2418	1342
5	2600	543	3143	1445
6	3120	803	3923	1555
7	3640	1122	4762	1674
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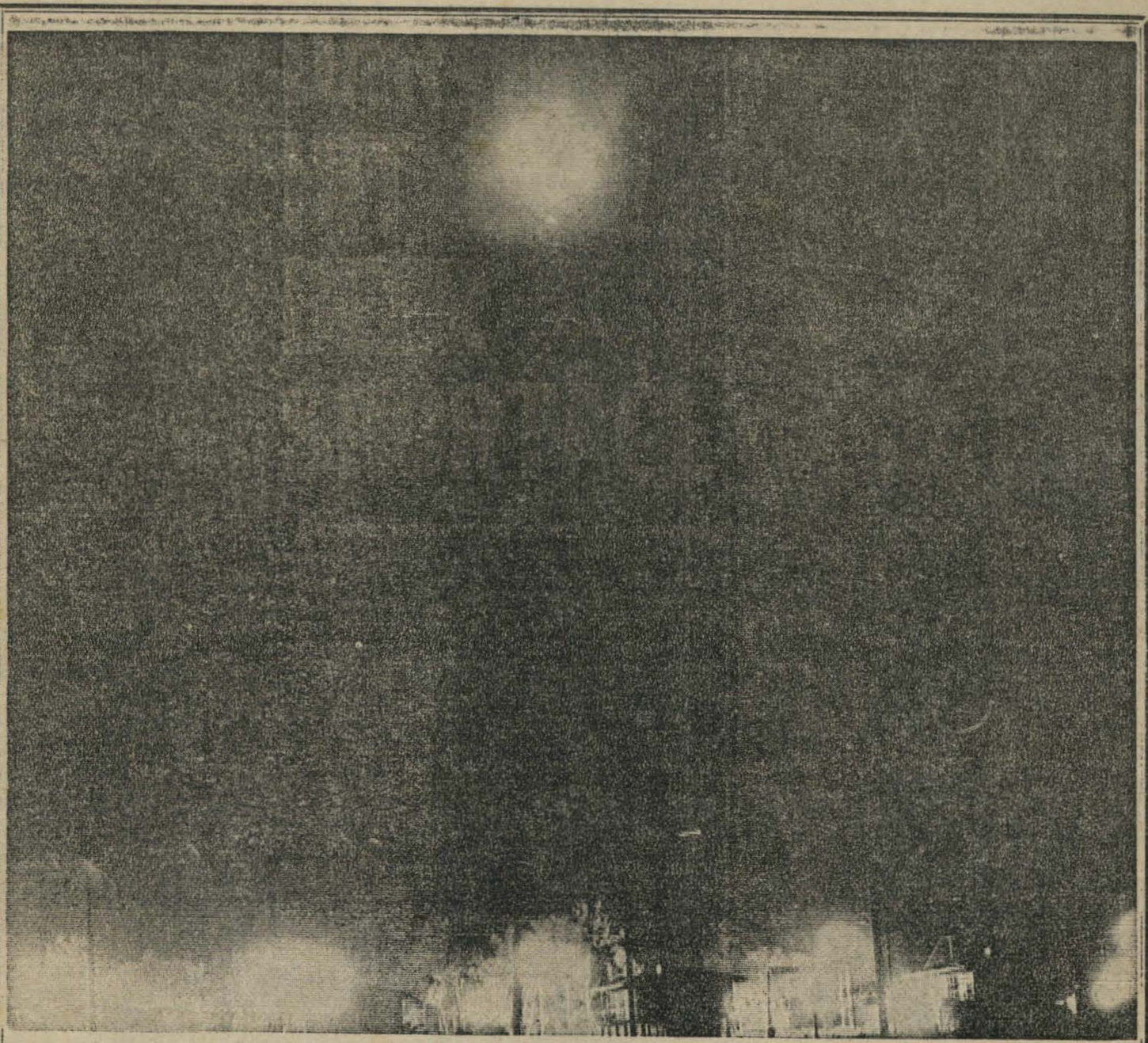
28/2/74.



This is the UFO over Casuarina in recent nights, recorded by News photographer Beat Erismann. The object shone with a bright white light and had a distinct halo. There was no moon the night the picture was taken — Tuesday at 5.30 am. Casuarina shopping centre lies behind the street lights. The photograph, in which the object has been blown up to give a better picture, was taken with a Nikon, with 10-second exposure at F2.8 using a 50mm lens.

The News snaps that UFO

by GENE JAMES

The mysterious object seen in the skies above Casuarina over the course of the last few nights has been photographed.

At least a dozen people have seen the object, two of them police officers, since it was first sighted a week ago by two welfare officers.

The sightings began on Wednesday, February 20.

Two welfare officers connected with the hostel in McMillans Rd saw two bright objects at approximately 3.30 am — a cross-shaped light and a half-moon lying on its back.

The objects appeared to be just above the south-easterly section of the RAAF base.

The objects were observed by welfare officers Vivienne Dallen and Tony Muschat for more than three hours.

During that time the objects moved from side to side, faded to pinpricks of light and then grew large again, settled down behind a nearby row of trees — permeating the area with a bright white light, and then again rose up into the sky.

The sightings continued for the next four nights and the cross-shaped object observed by a dozen people.

On Monday night News photographer Beat Erismann spent the night at the home of Charmaine and Roelf Hart in Goodman St, Casuarina.

The Harts had seen the continuing phenomenon from their back verandah.

At 5.30 am Tuesday Beat saw a very bright white light in the sky.

"It slowly grew in size," Beat said, "brighter than anything else in the sky. I then took my photograph.

"Shortly afterwards the object moved slowly upward, receding as it did so until it became invisible."

An officer with the Weather Bureau at the airport stated that at 5.30 am on Tuesday visibility was 20 miles.

No moon was visible.

Officers at the RAAF base declined to comment on the photograph and report until investigations were carried out.

But they admitted "there was definitely something there."

They will interview the witnesses involved and the reports compiled forwarded to Canberra.

The Bureau of Meteorology also agreed "that there was something there, all right."

They stated that no weather balloons were aloft at that time

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Registered for posting as a newspaper — Category "A"

The NORTHERN TERRITORY News

Tel: 816582 28 MITCHELL ST., DARWIN Price 10c*
Air Delivery Gove 13c

Vol. 23, No. 18
DARWIN, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1974

PERKINS DEMO FACES QUEEN TODAY

Aboriginals plan a mass demostration in support of suspended public servant Charles Perkins when the Queen opens Parliament in Canberra today.

An organiser said last night that some demonstrators would be armed.

Other protest meetings will be held today throughout Australia, including the Territory.

Mr Perkins, a part-Aboriginal assistant secretary of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, was suspended on Tuesday.

Assembling on lawns

He was charged under

Bob McLeod, said Aboriginals were upset and their tempers were frayed over the Perkins affair.

He said the demonstration was being organised by the National Aboriginal Congress.

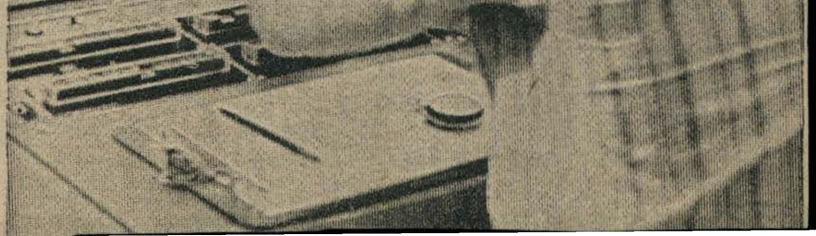
Public servants in the Aboriginal Affairs Department decided yesterday to join the Parliament House demonstration.

Public servants will hold meetings in Darwin and Alice Springs in support of Mr Perkins.

The Darwin meeting, in

AS IT HA

As seen in Darwin, as it happened . . . the



UFO over Casuarina

These people witnessed strange objects in the Darwin pre-dawn skies on four successive nights. From left to right: Tony Muschat, Vivienne Dallen, Roelf Hart and Charmaine Hart.

At least a dozen people, including two policemen, have witnessed unidentifiable flying objects

The sightings began last Wednesday morning when two welfare officers connected with the hostel in McMillans Rd saw two bright objects at approximately 3.30 am—a cross-shaped light and a half-moon lying on its back.

The objects appeared to be just above the south-easterly section of the RAAF base.

"We observed the phenomenon for roughly three hours,' said welfare officer Tony Muschat.

"During that time they moved from side to side, faded to pinpricks of light and then grew large again, settled down behind the trees —pemeating the area with a bright white light, then again rose up into the sky."

His companion and welfare co-worker, Vivienne Dallen, went on: "We rang one of our fellow - workers, Roelf Hart, who we knew was interested in such things.

"He and his wife went out onto their back verandah and also witnesed the lights . . . or whatever they were."

Tony Muschat added: "As the two shining objects rose up into the sky a beam of light shone down, illuminating an area about the size of a tennis court fairly close to where we stood.

"There was a second bright beam of light coming from the top arm of the cross and pointing immediately skywards.

"Then both objects moved off at a very fast rate until they were little more than pinpricks of light in the sky.'

The following night, Thursday, the Harts (Roelf and wife, Charmaine) were ready.

So, too, was Annette Brown, 16 who was spending the night with them.

At approximately 5.45 am the cross - shaped light was again seen, apparently hovering over the Casuarina shopping centre.

"Our young guest became very frightened," said Mrs Charmaine Hart," so we sent her back to bed and rang Casuarina police.

"Two officers came around.

"One of them admitted that it was like nothing he had ever seen before and that in his opinion it certainly was not a star.'

Once again the object fadded to the size of a pin-prick after hurtling upward at great speed.

The same object was seen by plumber Peter Vallance and his wife, Greta, of 49 Dripstone Rd, Casuarina.

"I rang the RAAF about it at approximately 5.30 on Thursday morning," said Mrs Vallance.

"Whoever I spoke with told me that, he too, could see it and that they had it under observation."

The cross-shaped object appeared at 5 am on Friday.

This time the Harts, the Vallances and near-opposite neighbours David and Maxine Richardson, who live in Truscott St, Casuarina saw the UFO.

As before, it disappeared at great speed, travelling upward at an angle of 45 degrees.

SMEAN 26/3/74

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While most family cars appear to neglect their family responsibilities, Valiant doesn't.

Believing it takes more than four doors to make a family car.

So for those who always seem to do something more for their families, we offer something more.

The interior gives you miles of room, which is handy on long trips.

And the boot gives you bags of room for luggage.

Seats are lounge-suite comfort and there's armrests on every door.

So even when you're away, you can all be at home.

And Valiant offers trouble free electronic ignition.

Because it needs less tune-ups, you can spend money on your family instead of your family car.

Valiant's family responsibility comes down to little things too.

Like wider double-sided safety rim wheels. And disc brakes, for instance.

To help you look after your family's health.

Plus a heftier standard engine (yet still economical), and a bigger capacity fuel tank.

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What most fam
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REPORT RECEIVED FROM MR. J. LORD, COASTWATCHER, OF MUNMALARY STATION ARNHEM LAND.

The following persons were present at Munmalary Station at the time and all sighted the unidentified flying object :-

Mr. and Mrs. J. Lord
Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Farmer (A.M.P. Representative).

Statement:

During the week of the 5th to the 12th April, some unusual stars were sighted from the Station.

On Sunday the 14th April at about 11.0 p.m. in the South-West and also in due Westerly direction, two bright white objects could be seen, both clearly visible with the naked eye so that the the pulsating of light and changing colour were easily apparent. Viewed through binoculars, the change of colour was more apparent and varied from light blue to red and appeared more or less as a circle around a white object.

Messrs. Lord and Farmer watched for about 14 to 20 minutes during which time both object moved only slightly. Then the one in the West moved off at fantastic speed headed in a Westerly direction. The other object moved only slightly in a wavery type of pattern.

The Westerly object which remained in sight from 15 to 20 minutes was distant many miles and the angle of sight was 25° to 30°. The South-Westerly object, also miles away was at an angle of sight of 40° to 45°.

Mr. Lord states that he is sure that these object were not satellites.

The objects were stated to be similar to the object observed on 31st July 1967 except that no blue was observed in that one. Otherwise similar except for distance.

On Thursday the 18th April at 11.0 p.m. two further unidentified flying objects were observed at Munmalary Station. The only persons present on this occasion were Mr. and Mrs. Lord.

The first object was sighted in a South Westerly direction at an angle of 45° in almost exactly the same position as previously on Sunday 14th April and exhibited the same characteristics. The object was kept under observation between 11.00 p.m. and 12.10 p.m. in which time it moved from South West angle 45° to West South West angle 10°, remaining at approximately the same distance from the place of observation.

The second object was first observed at approximately 11.0 p.m. a few degrees South of Due West at an angle of 30°-35°. Object moving in slight up and down wavering pattern in roughly same position and distant many miles. Between 11.0 p.m. and 12 midnight, this object had moved around from slightly South of West to approximately North North West moving slowly Northward. At midnight it was at an angle of about 10°. The object was still as clear at midnight as at 11.0 p.m. indicating that the distance was approximately the same although at a lower altitude.

Through binoculars both object showed a light haze unlike a normal star and both objects appeared to have a cross - a vertical line with horizontal line through the centre, each of four arms appearing to taper off and the cross was blue-white in colour.

It was also stated that on one night between the 6th and 8th August 1967 aborigines camped at Nanambu Creek, approximately 8 miles due North of Norlangie Safari Camp, had observed a large round white object which passed just aboe the trees over the camp, came back over and repassed a third time and then disappeared in a North Easterly direction.

Typed on 29th April 1968.

RESTRICTED

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

TELEPHONE: Darwin 499

Headquarters
RAAF Base
DARWIN NT 5793

IN REPLY QUOTE 5/4/Air Pt2 (1)

14th March 1968

Lieutenant Commander A.F. Parry
Naval Staff Office
DARWIN NT 5790

Letter in reply + ref to sighting only — file

SIGHTINGS OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Reference: A Your 300/9E/23 13th December 1967

A summary of unidentified flying object sightings reported to this base is attached for your information.

L.F.E. Fosdike

(L.F.E. FOSDIKE)
Squadron Leader
For Officer Commanding

For Information:

Major F.J. Spry Northern Territory Command Larrakeyah Barracks
Mr L. Gordon ASIO DARWIN NT
Sergeant J. B. Tiernan Special Branch Northern Territory Police

RESTRICTED

27SEP66 MV KABBARLI at 1636S 12315E at 1155Z sighted conical shaped white glow approximately moon's diameter in length bearing 242° at 18° elevation and moving at appreciable speed in NE direction, in sight for about 20 minutes.

22NOV66 Meteorological Bureau official at Daly Waters at 0943 while doing a met. balloon flight sighted an object at azimuth 280° elevation 59.2° and followed it for approximately 2 minutes till lost. Reading then was azimuth 320° elevation 27.9°. Object appeared to be travelling at tremendous speed at about 40-50000 feet. The speed was too fast for an aircraft, no noise was heard and DCA reported no aircraft in area.

01APR67 For about 10 minutes Mr R.H. Webber at 2100 hours at Darwin Sailing Club saw a moving bright reddish star-like light (too bright for aircraft nav. light and brighter than a star) a long way out to sea in the direction of Cape Don. It stopped for 2-3 minutes in a position directly in line with the Sailing Club and the Pt Charles light at an elevation of 45°. It then appeared to move slowly towards the observers for about a minute before disappearing at very high speed in a SW direction. (This may have been Mars)

25MAY67 A Met. Observer at Daly Waters at 0229 hours sighted a glowing object in the southern sky for about 40 seconds. This object moved at great speed from NW to SE at an estimated elevation of 25 degrees. It followed a dead level path across the horizon, slowly breaking up and disintegrating indicating that it may have been a rocket casing or other man made hardware. It finally disintegrated into one small red object and then disappeared.

09SEP67 Mrs Weir and 4 other members of Alice Springs Hospital staff sighted a silver object at 1415 hours for 5 to 10 minutes hovering high up but slightly NNW then rising quickly into the stratosphere where it appeared as a minute star and faded out. The object appeared to have a band or ring around its centre section.

22OCT67 Mr L. Edgar at 0131 hours when at Wildman Camp 131.41E 12.40S saw a light which appeared suddenly as a bright spot rapidly extending into a sharp pencil of light which died out almost as quickly as it appeared. The shaft of light travelled vertically downwards from about 50° above to about 35° above the horizon - azimuth 255°.

28JAN68 Observed by a number of people in and around Darwin and at Pine Creek at about 8pm - a light with a long bright red orange tail moving very fast on a straight horizontal path on a course of 150° - 160° and at an elevation from 15° - 30°.

2/2/68.

THAT WAS A UFO SAYS FORMER TEST PILOT

A former test and wartime fighter pilot believes the light seen streaking across Territory skies on Sunday night came from a genuine unidentified flying object (UFO) — controlled and navigated.

He is Mr Richard Johnson, chief flying instructor with Darwin Aero Club, who saw the UFO over Darwin and categorically rejects all suggestions that it came from earth.

Mr Johnson said the UFO appeared on a bearing of 040 degrees (north-east) and continued on a heading of 160 degrees before being obscured by a bank of cirro-stratus cloud.

In the 30 seconds it was visible, the UFO traversed an arc of 60 degrees.

It was slightly egg-shaped and was a "very bright, whitish orange". A long, waisted tail of pulsating bright and whitish orange trailed behind.

It moved at apparently incredible speed.

Mr Johnson watched it through binoculars strong enough to see small craters on the moon.

He said the waisted appearance of the tail probably was responsible for reports that the object was cigar-shaped.

The egg-shaped part was relatively small when compared with the tail and would have been almost invisible to the naked eye.

Speed estimate at 7200 knots

Mr Johnson said: "I was becoming quite sceptical about these things, but since Sunday night I admit I am convinced.

"I wasn't even looking for anything.

"From the appearance and behavior of the object, I consider it was controlled and navigated.

"I had a splendid view of it through my binoculars and even then the object was a great distance away.

"I estimated it to be 30 miles — possibly further.

"If the estimate is correct the UFO must have a minimum speed of 3600 knots to traverse an arc of 60 degrees in 30 seconds.

"If it were 60 miles away (probably a more accurate estimate) it would have been travelling at something like 7200 knots.

Spaceship

"It may sound like science fiction, but my impression was that it could have been a spaceship, of quite fantastic dimensions and speed, passing thousands of miles from earth.

"The object quite definitely was not an aircraft, satellite, meteorite or weather balloon.

"Assume the object was way out in space and passing the earth. It would have been of immense size and travelling at the quite fantastic speed of (at 600 miles out over a 60-degree arc) of 70,000 miles an hour.

"This is not at all impossible in the vacuum of space if some intelligent being has the power to accelerate to such speeds.

Power

Judging from the tail on this thing seen on Sunday night it had a lot of power."

Mr Johnson said suggestions that the object was a Boeing 707 were not feasible.

Sunday night's UFO made no sound.

Yet the noise of a single-engined jet flying at high altitude above the cloud-line was clearly audible from the ground.

It was hard to understand how the noise of a four-engined Boeing at climb power could be lost in patchy cloud.

An explanation that the light came from landing lights on an aircraft was, however, feasible — except that the only aircraft over Darwin with landing lights showing at the time was a DC-3.

Mr Johnson said he saw the UFO and the DC-3 at the same time.

There was no mistaking one for the other.

The possibility of a much smaller object being close to earth could not be discounted.

If this had been so, however, someone would have heard a noise and the RAAF airfield at Lee Point would have made a radar plotting.

Satellite

Mr Johnson also discounted the possibility that the object was a satellite.

It had travelled from 15 to 20 degrees above the eastern horizon — an elevation much too low to reflect the sun's rays.

Its high relative speed also ruled out the possibility.

Mr Johnson said this was confirmed when the Echo-1 satellite was seen moving from east to west five minutes after he saw

"It is known that unless one knows the size of an object it is impossible to judge its distance, and that without knowing its distance it is impossible to judge the size of an unknown object — particularly at night.

"But I must believe what I saw.

"Sunday night's sighting the UFO.
— as far as I am concerned — was a genuine UFO".

Mr Ron Gibson and Mr Barry Morton, two of the three men whose report on the UFO began the controversy on Monday, today refuted the Boeing theory.

East

Both said they were on the eastern side of the Stuart Highway at the time, 20 miles east of Humpty Doo.

The UFO was travelling still further east, but the Boeing would have passed them on the western side.

"I know Boeings are fast", Mr Gibson said, "but not as fast as this thing was travelling . . . it was at a fantstic speed".

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By a waterfall

**We had so much favorable comment about our Pag
of Robin Falls in action that we were prompted to ru
he picturesque spot 80 miles south of Darwin. Si
vater has been tumbling plentifully down the falls an
he river. Visitors say the falls should be a great att
's almost impossible to get in the half mile from th
hem. That's Manfred Karlhuber, Andrew Gomsi,
ngrid Van Goff and Monica Karlhuber climbing ou
foot of the falls.**

True North

A SURE FIRE way for one Top End Aboriginal tribesman to get his head punched is to accuse another tribesman of being "a pawn of the white man". This sign of the changing times happened at Bagot Welfare Settlement last night and a decent kind of punch-up resulted. Our Bagot spy reports that the going was very hectic for a while . . . but things were settling down by the time police arrived and there were no arrests. It is reliably reported that one character has struck the word "pawn" from his vocabulary.

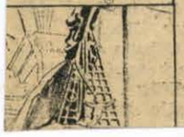
★ ★

CALLING Nightcliff Scouts and Cubs. Group Scoutmaster Mal Brassington has news for you . . . it's business as usual next week at the usual places and times. And Mal is keen to hear from anyone interested in helping lead Scouts and Cubs. You can reach him on 51047.

★ ★

THIS IS THE TIME of the year for potholes, washouts, road closures and outraged motorists. And we seem to be getting more than the usual run on each this time. But, just for the record, Town Clerk Bill Sullivan asked us to let you know that Coconut Grove, between McMillans and Bagot Roads, is CLOSED to all traffic except residents in the road. There has been a solid washaway and while the rains continue not a lot will be able to be done about it.

r Not:



Champion

SYDNEY, Friday. — Young McCormack, the British light-heavyweight champion, took his first look at a Sydney gym.

So
By
"

31/1/1968

MYSTERY DEEPENS ON TOP END'S UFO

What WAS that mysterious light which flashed across the sky over Darwin on Sunday night?

This is the question which has aviation experts scratching their heads after two days of fruitless inquiry.

First report of sightings of the unidentified flying object came in yesterday's edition of The News.

Three Darwin men told of seeing a strange light flashing over the city soon after 8 p.m. on Sunday.

The light was variously described as being "a white flame with occasional red glows," "white with a head like a comet and pink glows along the tail" and "a silvery white streak."

Some people said the object was cigar-shaped.

Following yesterday's report, scores of people have rung The News to tell of seeing the UFO.

Most confessed an earlier reluctance to report their sighting because of the risk of public ridicule.

The News report ended their inhibition.

A suggestion yesterday by Captain J. Hilder, of Mac-Robertson Miller Airlines, that the light may have come from a company plane operating in the area at the time was challenged today by Mr Peter Drury, of Rapid Creek.

Speed

"The light I saw was travelling at a fantastic speed," he said. "It was much faster than the speed of a civil aircraft.

"I saw the MMA plane over Darwin about 20 minutes after sighting the UFO.

"There is not a doubt in the world, as far as I am concerned, that what I saw at 8 p.m. was anything but an aircraft.

"I am sure Captain Hilder is mistaken."

Meanwhile, the Department of Civil Aviation and the RAAF can offer no explanation.

Darwin Weather Bureau has discounted any possibility that the object sighted was a weather balloon.

The bureau is emphatic that lights are not attached to any baloons sent on high altitude probes.

Balloons, it says, are not released until 8.45 p.m.—about 45 minutes after the UFO was sighted.

Although differing phrases have been used to describe the UFO, there has been a convincing similarity of descriptions.

Flame

Mal Edwards and Ian Shergold, of Darwin, said they saw a white flame shooting across the sky. It was travelling at "tremendous speed".

Two neighbors at Rapid Creek saw the UFO from their backyards.

Mr G. Blanksby of Turner Street, Rapid Creek, said he and his neighbor, Mr B. Percival, saw a "white light" with a trailing "pinky flame" in the sky shortly after 8 p.m.

Mr Blanksby said he rang the RAAF operational control to ask if there were any Mirage jets flying around.

He said that he was told the weather bureau had sent up a weather balloon with lights underneath and this was probably what he and his neighbor saw.

'But it was travelling too fast for a balloon," Mr Blanksby said.

Four girls saw the UFO near 22-mile as they were returning to Darwin by car from Batchelor.

The object was moving in a southerly direction at great speed, they said.

One girl added: "It definitely wasn't a plane — I just don't know what it was.

"We hadn't been drinking."

A Rapid Creek man reported seeing the UFO from Satler Airstrip, at 21-mile.

He described it as "a bright light, different to anything I've ever seen before.

He added: "I stopped the car so that I could watch is closely.

"I wasn't game to say anything to anyone until I was talking to my neighbor on Monday.

"He saw it in the sky from Knuckey Street."

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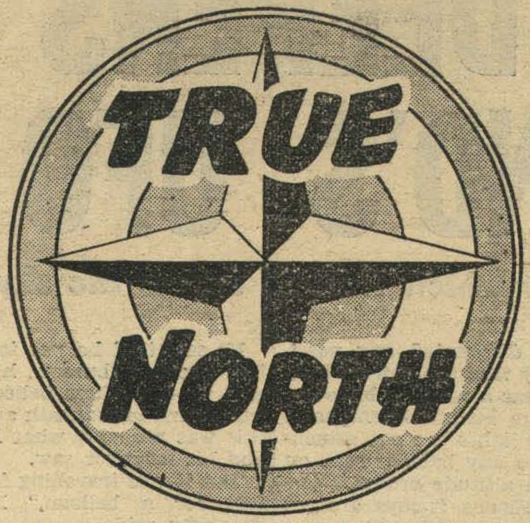

RESIDENT out Nightcliff way says he hopes the rats don't come to Darwin. "They wouldn't stand a chance against the frogs out our way."

★ ★

SPLASH DEPARTMENT. Everybody will be delighted to hear that the Darwin City Council plans to do something about those short downpipes hanging over Smith Street from some premises. An inspector is doing a survey into the situation with a view to having a word with premises owners with downpipes that send water splashing onto footpaths causing shoppers to skip about as if it was May Day.

★ ★

ANOTHER useful idea came up in City Council last night. One of the inspectors has suggested that kerbs in restricted parking areas be painted for easier identification. The inspector observed that it wasn't Council policy to seek out offenders and fine them . . . but to help the public and motorists to know what they were supposed to do and where restrictions applied. Good show.

★ ★

PENTAGON W
MORE $ FOR

WASHINGTON, Tuesday. — son's decision to budget $72,000 mi in 1969 represents an $18,900 milli opinion with the Pentagon on Vietna war strategy.

Although the sum decided by President Johnson is only $1000 million below the $73,000 million voted in 1945 at the end of World War II, it is less than 80 per cent of the $90,000 million the joint Chiefs of Staff wanted.

President Johnson's total $29.70 million above this year's outlay is based on assumptions that the cost of the Vietnam war has reached a plateau and that no new strategic weapons systems will have to be undertaken quickly.

While the specific requests of the joint Chiefs of Staff have not been made public, the military has in the past wanted more money for Vietnam and strategic weapons than the White House has been willing to give.

The disparity this year may lead to a turbulent debate in Congress.

Answers

Members of the House will seek answers to such questions as these:

How much of a real threat are Russia and China to US security?

What will it take to settle the Vietnam war?

What is needed to ensure readiness for known global commitments and unexpected developments like the North Korean crisis?

How important is the Soviet naval thrust in the Mediterranean?

Is the space-race a strategic necessity?

President Johnson left the door open to ask for more money for the war in case it turns out that the joint Chiefs of Staff are right.

NT'S MYSTERY UFO NAMED AS BOEING 707

1/2/68.

An airport official has come up with a new explanation about the mystery unidentified flying object seen over the Top End by scores of people on Sunday night.

A spokesman from the airport rang The News this morning to "clear the air."

The "flying saucer," he said, was most likely a Boeing 707 jet to Sydney which he believed took off between 7.30 and 8 p.m.—shortly before the UFO sitings occurred.

He explained that the main landing lights on the jet are turned off to reserve power.

On this particular flight the starboard light had gone out as well but the port light had remained visible, he said.

He said the plane was flying above a cloud layer which acts as a sound barrier, keeping the noise of the jet engines above the clouds.

The sound could not be audible from the ground.

He said the port light, shining directly down on the cloud puffs, had probably produced the glowing effect people had reported.

Red glow

The "red glow" was most likely the anti-collision light which can only be seen from under the aircraft.

The "moving flame" had been the navigation light coupled either with the exhaust from the jet motors or the light shining through the mirror-like clouds, he said.

The spokesman, who viewed the craft from the aerodrome, said the jet had proceeded to Sydney after flying over the city and then over the 21-mile air strip.

But — for those who like to speculate and would rather believe in flying saucers — here's a bit of fuel for the fire.

A woman rang The News later this morning to tell us she observed a similar strange sight three weeks ago on a Sunday night.

She said the explanation offered was plausible but it seemed unlikely to her that the same conditions would occur to produce almost the same effect.

THIS PAGE IS THE REVERSE OF THE PREVIOUS PAGE
AND MAY NOT BE RELEVANT TO THE FILE

Three gaoled for having marijuana

MAITLAND, Thursday. — Three young Sydney men were yesterday sentenced to 12 months' gaol for having Indian hemp (mari-

Gorto supp

SYDNEY, T
Senator Gorton, proved by Libera for the Melbourn

The decision has to be ratified by the party's State Executive on Friday.

The Prime Minister resigns his Senate seat today and will remain seatless until February 24.

For this reason he foregoes part of his parliamentary salary of $7000 but retains his PM's salary plus expenses.

"He will be Australia's poorest Prime Minister for the years," said his press secretary Mr A. Eggleton.

Senator Gorton will decide in Melbourne today whether the Federal Parliament will be prorogued before its next scheduled meeting in March.

Prorogation would allow

HEART TR

CAPETOWN, Thursday. — Dr Philip Blaiberg, the world's only survivor heart transplant patient, is now moving freely round his hospital room.

"But we are not even considering sending him home yet," said a spokesman for Groote Schuur Hospital where Dr. C. Barnard, the transplant pioneer, gave him a new heart on January 2.

Dr. Blaiberg was the world's third transplant patient and the second operated on by Dr. Barnard.

The spokesman said Dr. Blaiberg was eating normally and receiving daily physiotherapy treatment.

But the patient was still in a highly sterilised environment, con-

WHERE

30/1/68

UFO SIGHTED HERE — "FANTASTIC SPEED"

Three well-known Darwin men have reported sighting a UFO (unidentified flying object or "flying saucer") in the Top End skies at 8 pm Sunday.

They described the object as "cigar , shaped trailing a white to pink flame and travelling at fantastic speed."

And their sighting has been confirmed by two other Territorians at Pine Creek.

Mr. Ron Gibson of Attorney Generals Department and Messrs. Barry Morton and Jan Smith of Health Department made their sightings from near Mount Bundey.

Mr. Gibson later reported the sighting to RAAF Base, Darwin.

He said today that he had no doubt the object was not an aircraft.

"It was travelling at tremendous speed," Mr. Gibson said.

He said it appeared to him to be cigar-shaped but was too far away to be really identified as to shape.

Flame

"It was trailing a white flame with occasional red glows, but this turned pinkish when the object disappeared behind, or went into a cloud," Mr. Gibson said.

The object appeared to them to be travelling from north to south.

They heard no noise which may have indicated the object was a great distance away from them.

Mr. Morton confirmed in detail Mr. Gibson's description.

He believed they had the object in sight for from ten to fifteen seconds.

They had time to move around a tree to keep the thing in sight.

"Comet?"

Mr. Morton said he was sure it wasn't an aircraft and didn't have the usual trajectory of a comet or "shooting star".

From Pine Creek came a report from Mr. Peter Drury who reported seeing a UFO at 8.03 p.m. Sunday night.

His report was endorsed by his wife and a neighbor who were driving up the highway 36 miles away at the time.

An RAAF spokesman said they had received no other reports.

They did not have an aircraft in the air at the time.

"DC3?"

Captain J. Hilder of MacRobertson Miller Airlines reported that they did have a DC-3 doing circuit work over Darwin airport at the time.

But the UFO sighters discount this as a possible explanation because of the speed of their "object in the sky".

THIS PAGE IS THE REVERSE OF THE PREVIOUS PAGE
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COMIC QUALITY AT SEMINAR

(By a Political Correspondent)

CANBERRA, Tuesday — The end discussion of the Canberra seminar on New Guinea had a vaguely comic quality to it.

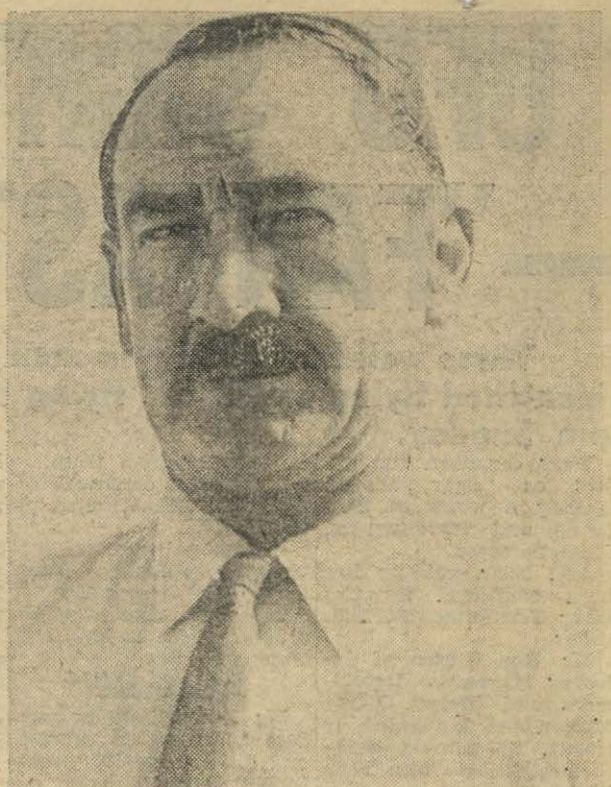
The Minister for Territories, Mr Barnes, who on Sunday delivered a well-written careful paper justifying his refusal to state that Papua-New Guinea's constitutional end would be independence — yesterday made the tactical error of summing up other to answer criticism in a summing up.

He justified his stand but went a little too far.

He revealed, by referring to an unfortunate statement he made last year, that seventh statehood for New Guinea not only was still in his mind — but that he rather hoped privately they would want it.

His extempore statement was one of the most extraordinary kindly and probably unconsciously paternalistic he has delivered.

He explained that for political and economic reasons he did not think that Papua-New Guinea could ever become a separate country.



Territories Minister Barnes.

West

ustralia should hel
ited period, Mr Pe

CONFIDENTIAL

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

TELEGRAMS:
"AUSTERITY," DARWIN

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT
D BRANCH
P.O. BOX 165,
DARWIN, N.T., 5794

8th January, 1968.

Lt Cdr. A.F. Parry,
Staff Officer (Intelligence),
HMAS Melville,
DARWIN.

REPORTS OF SIGHTING OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Thankyou for your letter 300/9E/23 of 13th December, 1967.

2. Our records show only two incidents having been reported since 31st January, 1966. The first was a report as follows:

> "The staff of the Department of Works, employed at the ELDO station, have sighted lights from out at sea, at Port Bradshaw, on the Gove Peninsular. The local natives have also sighted these lights. They rise to a great height, curve, and return to sea.
>
> The lights are reported to be very bright, like flares. Associated with these lights have been three distinct torch flashes from sea. These sightings have been investigated, but on arrival in the area where they were sighted, nothing could be found.
>
> Lights resembling car head lamps, or a small searchlight, were also seen from the land, flashing towards the sea, but on investigation nothing could be found.
>
> The sightings have been made at night, and they occur about six times a month. The last sighting was made on 2nd January, 1967.
>
> It was at first thought that the lights were being used by people looking for sea slugs; however, this theory has now been discounted by the local people.
>
> The resident natives have ruled out natural phenomena such as fireflies, etc.
>
> It is considered that these light flashes may have resulted from experiments conducted by several oil search teams, currently operating in this area."

..../2

CONFIDENTIAL

RD/NT
Lt. Cdr. Parry 8.1.68

The second is a report by Special Branch on the entry of the prahu, "SARA UTAMA" into Darwin Harbour, on 12.3.67. No doubt Special Branch will provide you with an account of the incident.

L D Gordon.

(L.D. GORDON)
Regional Director,
NORTHERN TERRITORY.

A.S. 1330Y (Revised 1963)

RECEIPT NOTE for Classified Correspondence

(To accompany "Secret" or "Confidential" communications)

INSTRUCTIONS: 1. All details in the area bounded by the dark line are to be completed by the sender before despatch.
2. This form is to be signed by the recipient and returned IMMEDIATELY by ordinary post to the sender. If, however, a classified subject is mentioned, this form should be classified and despatched accordingly.

Alto 2408

RETURN TO { Naval Staff Office, DARWIN NT } (SENDER)

Sergeant J.B. Tiernan, Special Branch, DARWIN. (RECIPIENT)

No. (in words) of copies of correspondence	No. (in words) of enclosures	Registered No.'s or Subjects of Correspondence	Date of Correspondence	Remarks
ONE	ONE	300/9E/23	13.12.1967	CONFIDENTIAL.

Noted in Office of originator on return of Receipt Note

Initials ..... Date .....

The above-mentioned Correspondence has been received 300/9E/23

Signature L Barnett (L. Barnett)

Rank or Designation Det/Const. Reg. No. 128. *Date* 15/12/67.

A/Officer in Charge, Special Branch.

A.S. 1330Y (Revised 1963)

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Alto 2408

RETURN TO { Naval Staff Office, DARWIN NT. (SENDER)

Squadron Leader L.F.E. Fosdike, RAAF Base, Darwin. (RECIPIENT)

No. (in words) of copies of correspondence	No. (in words) of enclosures	Registered No.'s or Subjects of Correspondence	Date of Correspondence	Remarks
ONE	ONE	300/9E/23	13.12.1967	CONFIDENTIAL.

Noted in Office of originator on return of Receipt Note

Initials ..... Date .....

The above-mentioned Correspondence has been received

Signature L F Fosdike

Rank or Designation Sqn Ldr Date 15 Dec 67

A.S. 1330Y (Revised 1963)

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Alto 2408

RETURN TO { Naval Staff Office, DARWIN. NT. (SENDER)

Major F.J. Spry, NT Command, DARWIN. (RECIPIENT)

No. (in words) of copies of correspondence	No. (in words) of enclosures	Registered No.'s or Subjects of Correspondence	Date of Correspondence	Remarks
ONE	ONE	300/9E/23	13.12.1967	CONFIDENTIAL.

Noted in Office of originator on return of Receipt Note

Initials ..... Date .....

The above-mentioned Correspondence has been received

Signature [signature]

Rank or Designation Major *Date* 4 Jan 67

A.S. 1330Y (Revised 1963)

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Alto 2408

RETURN TO { Naval Staff Office, DARWIN NT. } (SENDER)

Director of Naval Intelligence, CANBERRA ACT. (RECIPIENT)

No. (in words) of copies of correspondence	No. (in words) of enclosures	Registered No.'s or Subjects of Correspondence	Date of Correspondence	Remarks
ONE	ONE	300/9E/23	12.12.1967	CONFIDENTIAL.

Noted in Office of originator on return of Receipt Note

Initials ..... Date .....

The above-mentioned Correspondence has been received .....

Signature .....

Rank or Designation ..... *Date* .....

CONFIDENTIAL

St 2529

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

TELEPHONE

REF. NO. 300/95/23

Naval Staff Office,
DARWIN NT.

13th December 1967.

Squadron Leader L.F.E. Fosdike, R.A.A.F., Darwin.
Major F.J. Spry, N.T. Command, Darwin.
Mr. L. Gordon, A.S.I.O., Darwin.
Sergeant J.B. Tiernan, Special Branch, N.T. Police, Darwin.

REPORT OF SIGHTING OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

Enclosure: Statement made by Mr. J. Lord, Mumalary Station, South Alligator River, Northern Territory.

The attached statement covering the sighting of an unidentified flying object at Mumalary Station in July 1967 is forwarded for your information and record purposes.

2. Lists of Incidents, Sightings of Unidentified Craft and Aircraft, Flying objects and/or Phenomena held at this office have not been amended to include reports received after 31st January 1966. In order to bring these records up to date, it would be appreciated if details of any reports within these categories could be furnished so that complete records are available on our files for reference purposes.

A.F. PARRY,
Lieutenant Commander, RANVR.
STAFF OFFICER (INTELLIGENCE)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

300/9E/23

Naval Staff Office,
DARWIN NT.

12th December 1967

Director of Naval Intelligence,
Department of the Navy,
Navy Office,
CANBERRA. ACT 2600

REPORT OF SIGHTING OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

Enclosure: Report by Mr. J. Lord, Munmalary Station, South Alligator River, Northern Territory.

The attached statement covering the sighting of an unidentified flying object at Munmalary Station on the nights of 29th and 30th July 1967, is forwarded for information and record purposes.

2. Due to the length of time that has elapsed between the sightings and the receipt of the statement, no investigation action has been initiated.

3. Copies of the statement have been forwarded to the R.A.A.F., Darwin, Northern Territory Command, The Regional Director of A.S.I.O., and the Officer-in-Charge of Special Branch of the Northern Territory Police, for their information.

A.F. PARRY,
Lieutenant Commander, RANVR.
STAFF OFFICER (INTELLIGENCE)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

STATEMENT MADE BY MR. J. LORD, MUNMALARY STATION, SOUTH ALLIGATOR RIVER, NORTHERN TERRITORY

On the night of Saturday, 29th July, we were sitting having dinner at approximately 8.15 p.m. A friend of ours, Mr. Bill Murdoch, left the table and went for a walk in the garden. He had been outside for 5 to 10 minutes when he called out to ask us to come and look at a bright light. His wife, my wife and Mr. Danny Thomas of Darwin plus myself, went out into the garden and there in a due Westerly direction at an angle of sight of approximately 60° was a very bright pulsating white light with a circle of orange, which changed to spurts of red shooting out intermittently, approximately in the middle of the white light. The object was decending, would then pause and move both to the left and the right. Standing behind a 6" post at a distance of 6 to 8 feet, one had to move four to five paces in either direction to keep the object in view.

We observed the light for approximately 15 minutes and as it got to just above the 60 feet trees at the Western side of the airstrip, Mr. Thomas and I walked to the airstrip to see if we could get a better view. When the light was just at tree top level, the glow became so bright, without the pulsating characteristic, almost as though a very large light had been turned on, that the trees were well illuminated. The illumination covered an area of approximately 2,000 feet along the edge of the airstrip.

We both agreed that the object must be within a few miles of us and we therefore drove down through the timber for 3 miles to the edge of the black soil plain. It is a mile from the edge of the timber to the river where there is stunted mangrove trees and then a further 3 to 4 miles of plain before you reach high timber again. There was no sign of any light or object on the plain or in the timber.

The following night, Sunday 30th July, at approximately the same time, a white object with the same orange and shooting jets of red, was observed by my wife, Mr. and Mrs. Murdoch and our governess, Miss Judy Anson. This light was in the same position and decended in approximately the same direction. I myself did not see the light on the Sunday.

At approximately 11.0 p.m. on the Sunday night, Mr. Wally Wickshaver saw a small white light shoot up from approximately this same area and disappear in the sky.

Since then we have seen no further strange lights and although pilots were requested to keep a look out for any strange objects or areas of burnt ground, there was nothing to report.

On all occasions when the object was sighted the sky was clear and cloudless but the night was not brightly moonlit. The object definitely was not a star. There were no fires burning in the area or in any of the surrounding country. At this stage the country had not been burnt off.

.....

NOTE BY STAFF OFFICER (INTELLIGENCE): After the first sighting, Mr. Lord called V.I.D. on the Sunday morning and asked for a check with the RAAF as to whether any aircraft activity in the area at time of the sighting. V.I.D. reported that RAAF had no knowledge of any aircraft in that vicinity at this time.

CONFIDENTIAL

"FLYING SAUCERS" REMAIN A MYSTERY

4/5/67 By ALTON BLAKESLEE (AP)

NEW YORK. — From his tenth floor office atop the highest building on the University of Colorado campus, Dr Edward U. Condon has a magnificent eyrie to scan the skies for UFOs — unidentified flying objects.

His windows view north-west upon the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, north towards Cheyene, Wyoming, east over the vast plains stretching to the Mississippi, south-east toward Denver, 40 miles away.

And Edward Condon, physicist, is in a sense looking for UFO's. He heads a team of scientists investigating reports of UFO's, which some persons believe are visitors from distant planets.

Dr. Condon has never personally seen a UFO.

In Washington, Richard Hall, Deputy Director of NICAP — the National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena — works in a third floor office with a view of downtown streets. It is his working guess that some UFO's do come from outer space.

Hall has never personally seen a UFO.

And neither has Dr. J. Allen Hynek, bearded astronomer who for nearly two decades has been a scientific consultant to the US Air Force on UFO's.

From his groundfloor office in the Dearborn Observatory at North-western University in Evanston, Illinois, Dr. Hynek campaigned for a hard, fully scientific look at the UFO phenomenon, a plea that contributed to formation of the Condon committee.

For nearly 20 years, UFO's have created a contrail of mystery, confusion, debate, emotion, scorn, belief, concern and potent points of view.

The poles of belief range from conviction that all sightings can be explained as natural or psychological phenomena to the conviction that some truly are visitors from space. In between are millions of people who are simply puzzled.

Perhaps the most intriguing question is why — after generation of time — why there should still be debate? Why are there unexplained sightings?

Among reasons offered are, on one hand:

Some UFO's could be extraterrestrial and there's no proof they are not. Very provocative sightings have been made by trained observers, including scientists and pilots.

The US Air Force has not really made a good investigation. The Air Force is engaged in a conspiracy to hide the truth. The "Scientific Establishment" knows the facts, but is embarrassed to admit that a superior civilisation and science exist elsewhere. Scientists and others have often ridiculed honest reputable people for describing what they saw rather than listen to and investigate their stories.

On another hand:

The Air Force says it is satisfied UFO's do not represent a threat to national security. Proving that UFO's are supernatural should rest upon the believers.

With greater effort and money, probably all sightings could be explained without inferring extraterrestrial origin. Some sightings are hoaxes, most are misidentifications of balloons, aircraft, stars meteors or other phenomena.

And, says one psychologist, for some people "the indignity of the explanation" doesn't suit "the enormity of the event" that was experienced or the wish to believe in visitations from space.

Certainly there is growing public awareness — from science fiction and published suppositions of astronomers — that there could be life on millions or billions of other planets among all the billions times billions of stars in the universe. With man sending space probes to nearby planets, could not some far advanced civilisation also be inspecting earth?

INCOME

UFO's have brought sizeable income to some authors, but serious investigations have limped along on limited budgets.

For centuries, people have sighted curious or unexplained lights or phenomena in the skies. Some legends, in China, Peru and elsewhere, have been interpreted as meaning that living beings came from space to populate the earth.

Current, continuing UFO interest in the United States was sparked by the report in 1947 of a businessman - pilot, Kenneth Arnold, of seeing nine strange moving objects over Mt. Rainier, in the State of Washington. The term "Flying Saucers" was coined.

Late in 1947, a year of intensifying cold war, the Air Force launched a study which later was dubbed Project Blue Book. Each year has brought a steady flow of reported sightings to Blue Book, with flurries of 1,501 cases in 1952, 1,006 in 1957, and the runner-up high of 1,060 in 1966.

At Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio, Major Hector A. Quintanilla, Jr., officer in charge of Blue Book, sums up the 11,107 reports since 1947:

Six per cent — 676 — are still listed as unidentified, including 30 of last year's. Another 242 are listed as lacking sufficient information to try to identify.

Blue Book's answer remains negative on three questions:

No evidence that any UFO it has evaluated is any threat to national security.

No evidence that "unidentified" sightings involve anything beyond the range of present day scientific knowledge.

NO DENIAL

No evidence that "undentifieds" are extraterrestrial vehicles. But "the Air Force does not deny the possibility that some forms of life may exist on other planets in the universe."

And, it adds, all photographs evaluated have been determined to be "a misinterpretation of natural or conventional objects."

To Project Blue Book, an "unidentified" sighting is a report that seemingly "contains all pertinent data necessary to suggest a valid hypothesis concerning the cause of explanation of the report, but the descriptions of the objects or its motion cannot be correlated with any known object or phenomena."

Then what are people seeing? Blue Book ascribes the bulk of sightings to aircraft, weather and sounding balloons, satellites, meteors, bright stars and planets, missiles, searchlights, clouds, birds, reflections, temperature inversions, mirages, sparking of electric wires, swamp gas, even a lighthouse.

Major Quintanilla grins at rumors that the Air Force has a morgue containing "humanoids from a UFO crash," or that the Project Blue Book office once had a "flying saucer in its basement."

"The building didn't have a basement," the major says.

The United States stands virtually alone in having any official agency investigating UFO reports, an Associated Press survey of 21 nations find.

Britain has no official agency, but sightings are reported to the Defence Ministry. In Sweden, the Defence Research Institute registers reports and investigates some sightings. In Australia, the Royal Australian Air Force tries to evaluate reports.

The scientist with perhaps the longest experience with UFO's, Dr. Hynek, says: "No matter what the UFO phenomenon is, let's take a serious look. There is no compelling evidence to believe in other than natural causes, and 95 per cent of sightings are easily explicable as ballons, meteors, fireballs, birds, satellites, mirages, or other things.

"No truly scientific investigation of the UFO phenomenon has ever been undertaken," Dr. Hynek says. "Are we making the same mistake the French Academy of Sciences made when they dismissed the stories of 'stones that fell from the skie' Finally, however, meteorites were made respectable in the eyes of science."

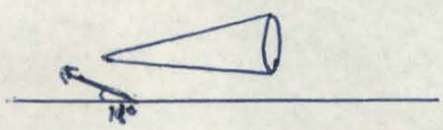
INFORMATION OF SIGHTING BY M.V. KABBARLI.

The following message was received through VID as reported from Master, M.V. KABBARLI.

Letters at top of message - AWD NYH
AWD NYS

DATE? 26/10/66

IN KING SOUND 16°36' South 123°15' East at 1155 GMT sighted conical shaped glow approximately moon's diameter in length bearing 242° at 18° elevation and moving at appreciable speed in North-easterly direction. Base of cone facing direction of travel. Object lost to sight when overhead.



Message further stated unable to give any indication of height and was in sight for about 20 minutes when lost in light of moon. Colour of glow white.

Also sighted by HMS FORTH

Reported WA newspapers as being sighted as far south as Geraldton.

DARWIN not common

300/9E/23.

Naval Staff Office,
DARWIN NT.

7th December 1964.

Director of Naval Intelligence,
Department of the Navy,
Navy Office,
CANBERRA ACT.

References: (a) NOIC NA letter 300/9E/23 dated 13th November 1964.
DNI letter 3.1.4/2 dated 2nd December 1964.

Mr. McLean has again been interviewed and the position of the sighting has been correctly ascertained to be approximately 14°15'S 125° 55'E.

2. The error is regretted.

A/CAPTAIN, RAN,
Naval Officer-in-Charge,
NORTH AUSTRALIA AREA.

Boo

Whose error, McLean's or ours?

2. For future reports please plot the position & check with source that it is correct before making report.

7 Dec.

Ref. No. 3.1.4/2

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"NAVY CANBERRA"

Naval Intelligence Division,
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY,
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

2 DEC 1964

Naval Officer-in-Charge,
NORTH AUSTRALIA AREA.

(Copy to: Naval Officer-in-Charge,
WEST AUSTRALIA.)

UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS - NORTH AUSTRALIA AREA

Reference: Your memorandum 300/9E/23 dated 13th November, 1964.

With reference to the abovequoted memorandum it is requested that Mr. McLean be thanked for his interest in this matter. However it would be appreciated if a check of the position quoted could be advised, observing the position quoted is high up the Mitchell River.

Director of Naval Intelligence.

300/9E/23

Naval Staff Office,
DARWIN NT.

13th November 1964.

Director of Naval Intelligence,
Department of the Navy,
Navy Office,
CANBERRA ACT.

Copy to : Naval Officer-in-Charge, West Australia Area.

UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS - NORTH AUSTRALIA AREA.

Forwarded for information, the following report of an unusual sighting in Admiralty Gulf (approximately 14°50'S 125°40'E). This phenomena was reported by a crocodile shooter, Mr. Patrick McLean of Darwin :

> "Between the hours of 2000 and 2359 on Tuesday 13th October, a large patch of light was observed just below the surface at a range of approximately one half mile. This light remained stationary as I steamed towards it, but on getting closer, I was alarmed to find the water in the vicinity becoming quite hot. I sheared off and proceeded to circle this 'thing' for about 15 minutes and then decided to attempt a second observation. On approaching for the second time, the water was still quite hot, and the closer I approached to the patch of light, the hotter the water became. I was quite alarmed at this so I decided to leave the area. The depth of the water in the vicinity is between 8 to 10 fathoms."

2. This story was substantiated by a crew member.

3. No further details are available.

A/CAPTAIN, RAN,
Naval Officer-in-Charge,
NORTH AUSTRALIA AREA.

RESTRICTED

R 28Ø547Z ROUTINE

FM NOIC QLD
TO A C N B
INFO NOIC NA

R E S T R I C T E D. FOR DNI. REPORTING OFFICER THURSDAY ISLAND REPORTS BRIGHT FLASHING BLUE LIGHT OBSERVED EDWARD RIVER MISSION AT 1945K 27 AUG TRAVELLINGVERY FAST EASTERLY TO WESTERLY DIRECTION. LASTED FOUR SECONDS FOLLOWED BY EXPLOSION FIVE MINUTES LATER. OBSERVED BY EX STAFF MEMBER OF MISSION

RESTRICTED

DIST LOG SEC BOO
CNE Ø12 PL GFW 28/8/64

NAVAL MESSAGE.

S. 1320h.
(Established 1935.)
(Reprinted 1940.)

To:

FROM:

4,000,000—6000/1/42—15364—St 4479 A. H. PETTIFER, ACTING GOVT. PRINTER.

300/9E/23

Naval Staff Office,
DARWIN NT.

14th February 1964.

Captain G.W. Hughes,
Harbourmaster,
Northern Territory Port Authority,
Post Office Box 390,
DARWIN NT.

Dear Sir,

REPORT ON MAGNETIC DISTURBANCE AND LOCAL ACTIVITY.

Thank you for forwarding the report on the above unusual sightings and magnetic disturbances experienced by the Master and crew of the landing barge "Loellen-M".

2. The contents of the report are very interesting and copies have been forwarded to the Hydrographer RAN and Navy Office Canberra for information purposes and in the hope that they may be able to furnish an explanation of the strange phenomena observed.

Yours faithfully,

CAPTAIN RAN,
Naval Officer-in-Charge,
NORTH AUSTRALIA AREA.

PA

Naval Staff Office,
DARWIN NT

14th February 1964.

Hydrographer RAN,
Department of the Navy,
Garden Island,
SYDNEY NSW.

(Copy to : Director of Naval Intelligence, Canberra)

REPORT OF STRANGE PHENOMENA SEEN AT SEA ON THURSDAY 23RD JANUARY 1964.

Enclosure : Copy of report compiled by Master J. Johnson and A.A. Scott.

The attached report was submitted by the Northern Territory Port Authority.

2. No reports of the phenomena have been received from either the Groote Eylandt or Umbakumba Mission Stations.

CAPTAIN RAN,
Naval Officer-in-Charge,
NORTH AUSTRALIA AREA.

B00 - For reply
+ letter to
Hydrographer.

[redacted]GRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"NORPORT," DARWIN.

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
EXECUTIVE MEMBER.
P.O. BOX 390. DARWIN.

NORTHERN TERRITORY PORT AUTHORITY 1963

TELEPHONES: 3861
3862

BURNS, PHILP BUILDING,
KNUCKEY STREET, DARWIN, N.T.

6th February 1964

Captain Gledhill,
N.O.I.C.,
DEPARTMENT OF NAVY,
D A R W I N.

Dear Sir,

Report on Magnetic Disturbance & Local Compass Activity

Attached is a report received at this office from V.B. Perkins & Co., Darwin, who operate the landing barge "Loellen-M" as a cargo carrier.

The report originated from the Master of the vessel, operating in the vicinity of the De Groote Islands, and we are forwarding it on to you instead of direct to the Hydrographic office owing to other interesting phenomenan in the report.

Yours faithfully,

G.W. HUGHES,
Harbourmaster.

Att/-

L/C 'LOELLEN/M'

REPORT ON STRANGE PHENOMENA SEEN AT SEA ON THURSDAY 23rd JANUARY 1964, BETWEEN 0140 hrs & 0245 hrs BETWEEN CAPE GREY AND N.E. POINT OF GROOTE EYLANDT, BY J. JOHNSON, F.J. WOOLER, A.A. SCOTT, HENRY BAK AND J.R.DAVIES.

J. Johnson was on wheel house watch, C. Wooler was on engine room watch. At 2100 hrs J.Davies reported when changing watch that he found difficulty in steering a straight course by the compass. A.Scott took the wheel and found the compass was unsteady, however, he passed it off as he being overtired and steered by the stars. At 2400 hrs, J.Johnson relieved A.Scott. At approx. 0045 hrs the compass swung 90° off course. At the time J.Johnson was steering by a star. The compass swing became greater. At approx. 0140 hrs. J.Johnson sighted a light extending right across the bow on the horizon. He handed the wheel over to C.Wooler and went to Monkey Island to have a better look. He came down to the wheel house and told C. Wooler to have a look, C.Wooler turned out the compass light and saw a glow on the horizon. Both J.Johnson and C.Wooler could see under and over the light patch. C.Wooler turned on the compass light and found the vessel approx 60° off course. The compass went "Haywire". As soon as he had corrected the vessel as best he could, he switched off the compass light and found the un-natural light was about 6' on the Starboard side. the light was in the water. It was described as a ghostly white light, in the centre was a shadow which rotated in a clockwise direction causing the light to pulsate. The light appeared to draw away to the stern. It is estimated that it was miles across and a few hundred yards through.
J. Johnson saw another light patch coming. He immediately woke A.Scott. The light was coming straight at the barge at a considerable speed. Henry Bak was woken up. J.Johnson was steering by compass. As the light, which was pulsating, came close, the barge swung away to Starboard through 90°. J.Davies was then woken up. The light in the water passed about 100 yds to port. As the barge began to return to course, another light was seen coming at the barge at an angle of about 45° with the Bow. It came to within inches of the starboard side and appeared to rebound at 45° with the stern and moved away. It disappeared in a few seconds. The second light appeared to be about 400 yds long by 100 yds wide, and the third light slightly smaller. Three more patches appeared on our starboard side and passed in a few seconds. These patches were quite small. The light passed at approx. 0230 hrs. Faint glows were seen on the horizon until 0245 hrs. At approx 0300 the compass settled down and we had no further trouble.

All lights were the same color, with this strange rotating shadow, causing the lights to pulsate. The pulsations timed at 12 for 9 seconds, then completely irregular, then settled down to 12 for 9 seconds.

The Compass swung out of control, but became worse as the light approached. All members of the crew who were off duty were sleeping on deck.

The moon had set and the sky was scattered with light clouds. A thunderstorm was over the horizon to the North East and a squall on the horizon to the South West.

Course steered 205° true. REPORT COMPILED BY MASTER J. JOHNSON & A.A.SCOT

4/11/63

Fishermen see weird light in local creek

A "mysterious orange colored light" travelling about 10 feet above the water was spotted in Racecourse Creek on Monday night by two experienced Darwin fishermen.

Former croc. shooter, Ted Maloney told the story of the strange sighting today.

He said he and Mr. Kevin Young were fishing in Racecourse Creek when a light appeared to rise straight out of the water about 200 yards away in mid stream.

"The light went straight up then travelled in a straight line for about 60 feet before disappearing" Mr. Maloney said.

From where they stood the light was about the size of a cricket ball.

There was no sound and there didn't appear to be anything under the light.

"I have no idea what it could have been", Mr. Maloney said, "but we both couldn't have been 'seeing things.'

"In fact Kevin said to me at the time, 'That beats me but we couldn't both be imagining it'."

Mr. Maloney's light story is similar to one of many reports that led to the "Mandorah Monster" stories of three years ago.

On that occasion strange unexplained lights were seen racing across the harbor well above the water.

But one of the reports, from an experienced waterman, told of a 'strange craft" with a light above it travelling at tremendous speed and disapeparing up a creek on the other side of the harbor.

Monday's sighting was the first "strange light" report for over two years.

Saw light

23/6/67

Several people saw a mysterious light over Darwin Harbor again last night.

This time the RAAF Security Officer had the answer:

It was the planet Venus, looking like anything but a planet as she sometimes does.

On Wednesday night several people reported sighting another strange light over Darwin. But this one was not considered to have been Venus.

MYSTERY LIGHTS

21/6/67

Operations room at the RAAF base received reports last night of a strange light moving high above Darwin Harbor.

Mr. Colin Richards and his wife and a group of friends saw the light clearly for about 10 minutes about nine o'clock.

Mr. Richards and Mr. "Bluey" Smith gave a full report to the RAAF.

They said the light appeared first over East Point. It looked as big as a basketball and was reflected in the harbor.

It moved across towards the centre of the harbor and then changed to a deep orange before speeding away to the north west and disappearing.

"I've never seen anything like it before," Mr. Smith said. "I'm sure it was no weather balloon or anything ordinary."

Today "The News" had calls from four other people who saw the mystery light.

'Mystery light' over Darwin sighted again

30/6/67

There have been further sightings of "mystery lights" over Darwin travelling at terrific speed but appearing to be in controlled flight.

The reports are in line with a series of sightings in Queensland last week where seven people reported seeing unidentified flying objects in daylight.

The first report here in the spate of "mystery light" sightings came from Mr. Colin Richards and a friend Mr. "Bluey" Smith of Wells Street.

Last week they told the RAAF intelligence office of watching a large light moving across the sky over the harbor and then veering away to the north west.

Mr. Richards has since reported seeing lights moving across the sky on several nights, always about nine o'clock.

Last night two Nightcliff boys telephoned a report to "The News" immediately after seeing a strange object travelling high over the sea.

The boys are Robert Vowles, 13, and Angelo Fouranis, 14.

Very bright

Robert told "The News" the light was very big and bright. It was reflected in the sea.

The light was "greenish" in color at first but appeared to change to a yellow color before disappearing.

Robert said its course was "rather erratic" and it travelled from east to west.

Authorities say they had no reports of likely re-entries of satellites from outer space.

The reports are being studied and compared with other information available.

THREE MEN SEE FLYING SAUCER

24/5/62

After a lapse of many months an "unidentified flying object" reappeared in Darwin skies the night before last.

The appearance lasted about a quarter of an hour at least and was seen by three men.

Fannie Bay haulage contractor Kev. McCarthy yesterday told "The News" of the phenomenon.

"I was driving along the highway towards Darwin about the 40-mile just as it was getting dark", he said. "With me in the car were Ted Daniel and Charlie Crescent".

"I noticed an object about the size of an aeroplane about 1000 fete up ahead of me and slightly to my left", Mr. McCarthy said.

He said that against the lighter sky the object appeared dark.

"I drew Ted's and Charlie's attention to it, and we watched it as we drove for the next 10 or 11 miles.

"As the sky got darker, the object started to glow.

"And when it was quite dark it looked like a cigar or an object shaped like a saucer seen from the side, glowing brightly against the night sky".

Mr. McCarthy said the object seemed to be travelling in a straight line at a steady speed greater than that of his car all the time they watched it.

It gradually drew further and further away and eventually faded from view.

Neither the RAAF nor the Darwin Meteorological Branch have had any other reports of sightings of the object.

SATELLITE SIGHTINGS

6/6/62

A satellite or satellites have been sighted in northern skies in the past few days.

First sighting was by an officer of the Meteorological Bureau on Friday night. He saw a moving pin-point of light, believed to be a satellite, travelling in a southerly direction.

On Saturday night about 8.10 p.m. "News" linotype operator Kev Kelly, his wife, his two sisters Moyra and Anne and a Mr. Ernie Friend saw what they think was a satellite moving south-south east.

A spokesman for the Meteorological Bureau said today there had been no reports of other sightings.

"It could well have been a satellite. The sky is practically cluttered with them these days," he said.

The weather office had no record of satellites currently whirling around the earth.

"It could be Russian or American," he said.

'Mandorah monster' seen again

29/3/62

Three sightings of the "Mandorah Monster" during the week were reported to "The News".

Best authenticated is a sighting by well-known fisherman Charlie Holman and his wife last Saturday night.

Mr. Holman said he and his wife were on Vestey's Beach between the two boat ramps shortly before sunset.

They saw what appeared to be an unusual "wave" coming fast inshore, with small fish jumping frantically out of the way.

The "wave" raced shorewards, looking like a small wall of water with very little spray, until it was within about 40 feet of the beach, said Mr. Holman.

"Then it turned about with a great flurry of water and raced out to sea again", he said.

Mr. Holman told The News that he had had a clear sight of what was obviously the fin of a big fish.

He believes it may have been a marlin.

"Marlin have been caught weighing about 1,500 lbs", Mr. Holman said, "although the biggest caught in Australia would probably be a bit over 1000 lbs.

"And they have been clocked to travel at 68 mph".

On Thursday night a group of people on the beach told Mr. Holman that they had been watching "something about as big as a billiard table rushing around in the water, and pushing a wave in front of it".

Mr. Holman also said that a woman who lived in a seafront house near the Fannie Bay gaol had told him of a sighting on Thursday night last week.

Big, black

She said she had seen a "big black shape" racing across Francis Bay.

It had been travelling at a fantastic speed—about twice as fast as the speed-boats do, the woman had told him.

Mister Holman remarked that it was a coincidence that almost all alleged sightings of the monster had occurred about the same time—a little before sunset but still when there was plenty of light.

2 hour fight with Ray

29/1/60

The 'monster' tows launch

A giant stingray, believed to be the "Mandorah Monster" had a two-hour battle with three Darwin fishermen this week.

But "the monster" has now joined the ranks of the "ones that got away."

The fishermen — Bobby Shields, Kevin Jordin and Billy Risk were fishing from a boat near the hulk of "The Peary" when they got their enormous bite.

They say that after three-quarters of an hour's struggling they hauled the fish to the surface.

It took the combined efforts of the three.

It was a giant stingray between 10 and 12 feet wide across the wings. The tail was about 25 feet long and the eyes were as big as "bread and butter plates".

But once the ray surfaced the men were stumped.

There was no chance of hauling the giant aboard the small launch and there were no firearms aboard to kill the ray with.

TOWS BOAT

Then the "monster" took off. The ray heaved through the water hauling the boat with it.

The launch was towed by the ray into another craft.

The three decided to try and tow the stingray back to the wharf.

But the fish was too powerful. Even with the launch engine going flat out the stingray won the tug-of-war and the launch still went backwards.

GAVE IN

Eventually the fishermen had to give in and they cut the line. The "Mandorah Monster" plunged to the depths at once.

All three men are experienced fishermen. They say the ray could make very high speeds through the water and would cast a big shadow.

"OBJECT"

A few months ago the "Mandorah Monster" story started when an "unidentified object" was seen speeding through the waters of the harbor. Several people claim it was a mystery boat.

Messrs Shields, Jordin and Risk hope to get after the stingray again . . . next time armed with better equipment and a gun.

REPORT OF SIGHTING

Report received from Mr. Carter of Mandorah on 25th September, 1959.

A large object 80-100 feet was seen last night at 6.30 p.m. between Mandorah and Doctor's Gully. It was a large black shallow object just above or close to the surface travelling at an approximate speed of 80-90 miles per hour. The object shot up towards Delissaville Creek. A green Very light shot off from the water in a direction East of North from Mandorah, after the object was seen.

At 0715 hours on 25th September, 1959 the same object was seen again off Mandorah and shot up Middle Arm.

ANOTHER MONSTER SPOTTED

Another monster has been seen at Mandorah.

Recently a woman spotted what she described as a "seal-like head" skimming along the surface of the harbor.

The head was three feet wide she told Mandorah-West Point holiday resort proprietor Alan Carter.

"She asked me if we had anything like seals in these waters," he said today.

"It definitely wasn't my monster," he added.

Last October Mr. Carter saw a mystery object travelling across the harbor at 80 to 90 m.p.h.

It was 90 to 100 feet long and has been dubbed "The Mandorah Monster."

The Navy workboat searched the area at the time but could find no trace of the monster.

FLYING SAUCE
SOCIETY —
PETER Thomas
aide will address
above group on
September, at
Rooms, Cavenag
mencing 8 pm.
intending membe
attend.

Monster 'not fish'—Carter

The Mandorah Monster is not a fish. It is driven by an engine.

Mandorah - West Point holiday resort proprietor Allan Carter said this today.

He is the man who first sighted the Monster last month.

"I know a fish when I see one," he said testily yesterday. "What I saw was definitely mechanically driven."

Mr Carter, a test pilot during the war, said the mystery object was 90 to 100 feet long and seemed to have a superstructure.

It raced along at 80 to 90 mph. he claimed, yet left no wake.

He saw the thing again the following morning, Mr Carter added. There was no sound of engines.

On the first day a woman also had seen the Monster through a pair of binoculars. Her description tallied with his own, Mr Carter said.

Other people have seen the Monster cruising about the bay. The Navy has sent a workboat out to search for it — but without result.

Veteran Darwin fisherman Ted Maloney has suggested it might be a huge manta ray, which he says frequents the harbor and "likes people."

Commercial fisherman Ian Harper recently sighted a huge ray floating on the surface near Shoal Bay.

The big fish was about 25 fe
across, Mr Harper reported.

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IT'S THE

IT'S P

IT'S!!

FLYING SAUCER RESEARCH SOCIETY — MEETING

PETER Thomas of APIO Adelaide will address a meeting of the above group on Wednesday, 30th September, at the Red Cross Rooms, Cavenagh Street, commencing 8 pm. All members and intending members are invited to attend.

Monster 'not fish'—Carter

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The big fish was about 25 fe[illegible] across, Mr Harper reported.

FM NOIC NA

RESTRICTED

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TO BASQNDAR

250500Z ACAT

ROUTINE

THE FOLLOWING REPORT WAS RECEIVED VIA OTC FROM MR CARTER MANDORAH - "A LARGE OBJECT 80-100 FEET WAS SEEN LAST NIGHT AT 6-30PM BETWEEN MANDORAH AND DOCTORS GULLY - IT WAS A LARGE BLACK SHALLOW OBJECT JUST ABOVE OR CLOSE TO THE SURFACE TRAVELLING AT AN APPROXIMATE SPEED OF 80-90 MPH = THE OBJECT SHOT UP TOWARDS DELISSAVILLE CREEK - A GREEN VEREY LIGHT SHOT OFF FROM THE WATER IN A DIRECTION EAST OF NORTH FROM MANDORAH AFTER THE OBJECT WAS SEEN (-) AT 0715 HOURS ON 25 SEP 59 THE SAME OBJECT WAS SEEN AGAIN OFF MANDORAH AND SHOT UP MIDDLE ARM" (-).

// 250500Z SEP 59

REL BDO

DIST LOG SEC BIO BDO XO

RESTRICTED

TP PL TOD0501Z-25 PLANT NWA7-25 25 SEP 59

BY SECURE MEANS

NAVAL MESSAGE.

S. 1320h.
(Established 1935.)
(Reprinted 1940.)

To:

From:

4,000,000—6000/1/42—15364—St 4479 A. H. Pettifer, Acting Govt. Printer.

309

3 MANINGRIDAOPDARWINNT 39 30 6/45AM

TELEGRAPH OFFICE DARWIN N.T. AUST. 30 AU 59

TELEPHONE
To 309
Time 8 10 p
By

COLLECT9/9

SOI NAVY DARWINNT

OBSERVED BY PROFESSOR ABBIES AND PARTY WHAT APPEARED TO BE A METEORITE GLOWING BRIGHTLY AND LEAVING VAPOUR TRAIL TREVELLING FROM NORWESTERLY DIRECTION TOWARDS SOUTHEAST AND FOLLOWED BY RUMBLING LIKE PROLONGED THUNDER TIME 6/20AM

.. DRYSDALE

(SOI ABBIES TRAVELLING 6/20 AM)

BASE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
31 AUG 1959
NORTH AUSTRALIAN AREA

0735 J

MIR
Part 'i' F

Vide M.I.R. August 1959.

AUSTRALIA POST OFFICE COMMUNICATIONS TELEGRAM TELEGRAM TELEGRAM

Tuesday, August 25, 1959.

Meeting Friday to form N.T. flying saucer group

25/8/59

A meeting to form a Darwin branch of the Australian Flying Saucer Research Society will be held in the Red Cross Rooms, Cavenagh Street, on Friday.

Mr Duke Alley recently appointed the society's Darwin representative, announced this today.

A said a tape-recorded address by Mr Fred Stone, leader of the society, would be played at the meeting.

Mr Stone would discuss:—

- The origin of flying saucers.
- The reasons for their close interest in the Earth.
- "The veil of secrecy" surrounding flying saucers.

Mr Alley urged all persons interested in flying saucers to attend.

He claimed that Mr Stone was sky objecs in the southern hemi the greatest authority on the sphere.

1/9/59

Mysterious flying objects have been whizzing to and fro over the Northern Territory.

Observers at Darwin, Katherine and Maningrida Welfare settlement in the Gulf of Carpentaria sighted them over the past few days.

RAAF chief Group Captain Bolitho considered sending up a plane to investigate a report that a meteorite or the nose-cone of a rocket had crashed near Howard Springs on Sunday.

However the aircraft was out of commission and could not go.

Last week two Katherine residents saw a flying object which passed over the town emitting a "strange glowing light".

On Friday Mr Frank Nilon of Darwin said a fiery red ball swooped over him on the way to the rice fields and disappeared behind trees

"FIERY BALL"

Mr Nilon said he thought the object crashed, as it was following a downward arc. However he did not hear any explosion

On Sunday the vice president-elect of the newly-formed Darwin branch of the Flying Saucer Research Society (Mr Charlie McKay) saw a fiery ball which he believes crashed in the vicinity of Howard Springs.

Mr McKay sighted the object at about 6 am on Sunday.

An Adelaide University professor at the Maningrida Welfare Settlement on the Gulf of Carpentaria saw what he thought was a meteorite or the nose-cone of a rocket or missile at 6.19 am on Sunday.

He is Professor A. A. Abbie, who returned to Darwin yesterday.

Professor Abbie said the object was travelling from north-west to south east across the sky It burst into flames and lit up the whole area.

VAPOR TRAIL

It left a vapor trail and when it flared up there was a rumbling noise, like "distant thunder", Professor Abbie said.

Several natives who were up at the time were frightened by the glowing object as it streaked across the heavens.

It was still dark when Professor Abbie saw it, and it cut a glowing path across the sky.

Recently a hunting party at Nourlangie saw "a red blob moving up and down in the sky"