

# Local resident spots UFO hovering near Parkview

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If you happen to be up and about around 4:30 tomorrow morning, take a look at the northern sky. That's what Lyman Pierce of 2845 Holly Place, Idaho Falls, says he'll be doing.

Pierce reported to Idaho Falls police at 5 a.m. Thursday morning that he saw from his yard a "round, sort of disc shaped object" over Parkview facility that was too bright to be a star. He then went into his home to look at the sight through binoculars.

"Through the glasses, it looked like hundreds of bright little squares . . . sort of like looking at it through a screen," Pierce says.

After watching the phenomenon for "a long, long, time," it slowly began to rise higher, appear smaller, then disappear into the sky.

"I really can't tell you if it was a UFO (unidentified flying object) or not; I won't know until tomorrow morning, when I'm going to see if it really was that, or a star.

"I'm 74 years old though, and I've never seen a star that bright . . . I'm not an astronomer, but I know a star when I see one," he says.

Not only did Pierce see the object in the sky, but he got his wife out of bed to take a look, too.

"She saw the same thing, but she's not commenting on it right now. She was pretty sleepy," he says.

When a police officer arrived on the scene, the

bright object was gone, he says.

Idaho Falls police chief Robert Pollock says that when his department does receive a UFO report, they have an option of reporting the call to national citing stations.

"There can be so many explanations, that unlesnone of our people can verify it, we usually don't call it in," Pollock says.

Nationwide reporting stations are the Center for UFO Studies at Evanston, Ill., (a not for profit corporation with a toll-free number), and the National UFO Reporting Center at Seattle.

Neither the Seattle station nor local weather stations reported a UFO citing during the past 24 hours.

The Illinois station however, reported that four citings were reported last night in Washington and Oregon. The reports describe a large, bright white and red object. The citings were viewed at 10 p.m., midnight, 3 a.m. and 4 a.m., according to a UFO studies spokeswoman.

Meanwhile, Pierce says he usually doesn't start the day so early, but he plans on rising early Friday. He says he was up so early because he wanted to water his lawn thoroughly. He will be in Salt Lake City later this week.

As for actually believing in "flying saucers", Pierce says his mind is open:

"At this point in time and my life, I will not disbelieve anything."