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SKY AT FRIGHT OVER BRITAIN

By GEORGE HOLLINGBERY
BRITAIN was all lit up for Christmas . . . by strange lights racing across the sky.

The unidentified flying objects were

seen by thousands of people from Cornwall to Kent and Birmingham on Christmas night.

Police stations were flooded with calls from folk who got a nasty fright from the sky at night.

Some witnesses were convinced they had seen a fleet of flying saucers.

Mr John Simpson, of Gills Avenue, Canvey Island, Essex, reckoned it was a giant spaceship which "spurted out" smaller craft.

He said: "It was the most spectacular thing I have ever seen.

"My friend and I saw this huge fireball coming over the Thames estuary.

"Suddenly it got brighter and it seemed to

jettison five or six smaller lights which all shot off in the same direct flight pattern at a rapid speed leaving a blue trail."

Convoy

Mrs Margaret Hopkins, of Tenacre Close, Chichester, Sussex, reported: "Four of us saw six lights moving in convoy. "Two in front had dim

white lights, two in the middle had bright lights, and the two at the rear also had dim lights."

News of the sightings excited the British UFO Research Association.

But officials at the RAF's Observer base at West Drayton, Middlesex, were unmoved: Their verdict: "Almost certainly a meteorite breaking up."