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Men puzzle over UFO

HUNGERFORD ambulance men Roger Dicks and Graham Brunsden feared they had a major disaster on their hands when they recently spotted a trail of fire in the night sky.

"It looked just like an airliner with its fuel tanks exploding," said Mr Dicks. So they rang Newbury police and check calls went out, but nothing was reported.

Now the mystery sighting has left both men scratching their heads and wondering what on earth the unidentified flying object could have been.

They saw it while chatting outside Hungerford ambulance station during a quiet spell on night duty last week. "We thought it was a plane breaking up in mid-air. It was visible for about two or three seconds and seemed to be quite close, although it's difficult to judge distances at night," said Mr Dicks.

"We got the impression of smoke being emitted. It was going low before dipping down towards the ground. Then it completely disappeared as if someone had switched off a light," he said. "Anyone driving on the M4 or A4 near Hungerford would have seen it as clearly as we did. It sounds mad but we were very shaken up by the whole experience.

"I don't think it was a meteorite because it was travelling horizontally and seemed to be going slowly. It appeared to be man-made to us, but precisely what it was we still don't know," Mr Dicks said.