

Mystery object over Beijing

BEIJING, Sat (Reuter) - A small white object appeared high in the sky over Beijing today, arousing some interest among city residents following a spate of reported sightings of unidentified flying objects (UFOs).

The object, apparently motionless, could be clearly seen in the cloudless sky. Some people telephoned foreign reporters to ask if they knew what it was.

BALLOON

In Beijing's main shopping street, Wngfujing, scores of people gazed skywards and engaged in lively debate over what it could be.

It was not a plane because it was not moving. Neither was it a satellite because it would not be visible in broad daylight. And it was much too high for a kite.

Many people concluded that it was nothing more exotic than a weather balloon.

The official Xinhua agency issued a lengthy report yesterday of a UFO seen in Beijing and more than a dozen provinces in late July.

The object was described as being like a bright, spinning spiral.

THE CULTURAL
IMPERATIVE
STRIKES
BALL →

UFO sighted

BEIJING, Fri (Reuter) - Reports of an unidentified flying object (UFO) looking like a bright, spinning spiral have come from many parts of China, Xinhua News Agency said today.

The object, which one peasant said resembled a dragon coiling in the sky, was seen between 10.30 and 11.30 pm on July 24 in places as far apart as Beijing in the northeast to Xinjiang province in the far west, the agency said.

Three thousand people watching an open-air film in Sichuan province saw the UFO, describing it as like a ball shining with greenish radiance four or five times

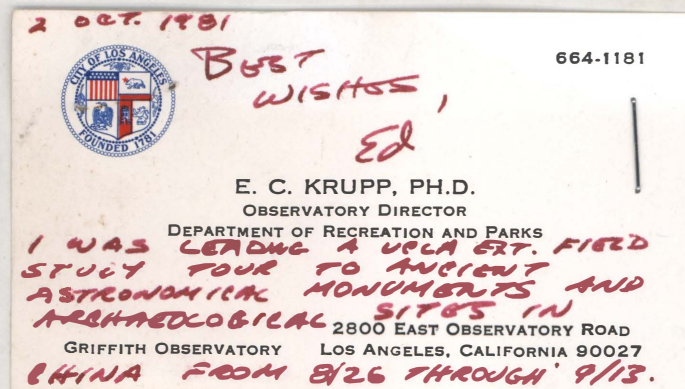
brighter than other stars, it added.

The news agency said it had received the reports after it had issued a story on August 5 saying that a UFO looking like a ping pong ball had been seen in Tibet.

While most reports agreed on the time when the UFO was seen, they differed on the direction it took, one saying it moved from northwest to southwest, another saying it went from east to west.

The object was evidently high in the sky because some reports noted that at times it was obscured by clouds.

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CR: Dr EDWIN KRUPP.

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