

"GHOST LIGHT IN JAPAN"

- Ghost Light Appeared and Disappeared Repeatedly!

By Shinichiro Namiki

About 7:30p.m. on July 31, 1982, Ms. Yoko Yarimizu (thirty eight - years old ), a housewife of Kirihata Yamagata City, Yamagata Prefecture, was surprised to find that there was something like a fire at the top of the Mt. Senohara (1,182 meters above the sea level) in the east when she went out to the backyard in order to dump garbage. She informed it to her family members. When her husband Kazumi (forty one years old) and other members of the family went outside, there was an orange luminous body, as large as a star of the first magnitude, near the crest line of the mountain although the "ghost light?" had disappeared. The luminous body disappeared in five seconds. Then, it appeared at a mountain side and disappeared. This phenomenon happened several times. And then, the two luminous bodies, one is orange and the other is light blue, appeared side by side. These two round luminous bodies disappeared soon after they moved horizontally. They repeated appearances and disappearances several times. The number of the luminous body was, at one time, only one and, at another time, was two.

At about 8p.m., the pressmen of the Yamagata Shinbun and some cameramen rushed to the spot through Kazumi's notification.

But, there was no ghost light appeared for some time. Then, at about 9:30 p.m., the crest line of the mountain became bright momentarily and a bluish ghost light appeared.

A cameraman Nobuyuki Kobayashi pressed the shutter hurriedly.  
The ghost light disappeared soon again. Immediately after this,  
a blue gleam ran across the sky from the crest line of the mountain.

This phenomenon was the final stage of a two-hour fuss over the  
ghost light.

It was cloudy with a gentle wind that night. And the moon's age  
was 12. The moon, three days before its fullness, was lighting  
the area from behind the clouds. Visibility was good.

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