

Mysterious objects sighted

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The pre-dawn occultation of Jupiter by the Moon yesterday was widely visible throughout the country.

Together with six other observers from the Philippine Astronomical Society, we were stationed at the Manila Observatory rooftop. At around 10:30 a.m., while waiting for

the event to begin, our group saw a pair of mysterious objects cruising at high speed some 10 to 15 degrees above the southern horizon.

The first object appeared from the general direction of the Marikina valley and was moving westward in a straight line (Turn to page 9, col. 4)

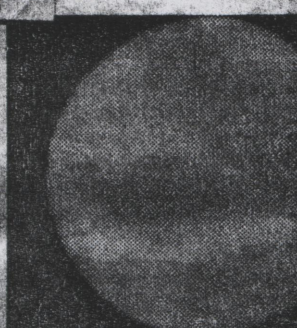


PHOTO taken of yesterday's occultation or eclipse of Jupiter by the moon shows Jupiter as a small dot at left about to be covered by the moon.

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line towards the second object which was heading in the opposite direction.

The two approached each other, with the former object continuing its course while the latter seemed to decelerate, become stationary, and reverse its movement.

They repeated the retrograde or looping motion thrice until the objects disappeared from view below the skyline at bearing south 35 degrees west. The entire sequence lasted about five minutes.

The object had a bright-

ness of less than -2.0 magnitude and were both yellowish orange in color. They did not have the visible outline of an aircraft, and even a pair of binoculars revealed only an oval-shaped glow of light. No sound of aircraft engines was audible, and their maneuverability was uncommon. The objects shone with a steady bright light, unlike the blinking and multi-colored navigational lights of conventional aircraft.

We are still in the dark as to the true nature of this airborne phenomenon.

(Miss Joson is a research associate of the Center for UFO Studies (CUFUS) in Lima, Ohio, under

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