

Policeman tells of night he had a close encounter

By Vic Gibson

ONE OF the policemen who saw the UFO above Stanmore has given a description of the mystery object.

Pc Dick Milthorp, 22 said the UFO, which was first spotted by residents in Belmont Lane, was circular in the middle with a dome on top and below.

The middle section contained blue lights with a red one on the far right-hand side. "The dome on top had blue and white flashing lights, while the dome underneath was blue, green, white and pink," he added.

The incident has interested the British UFO Society, which investigates and researches mystery sightings.

Chairman Deirdre O'Neill said it was the best corroborated case in London in recent years.

Erratically

Pc Milthorp, stationed at Wealdstone, watched the object for about an hour on Thursday, April 26. He estimated that it was more than a mile away. "It was moving erratically up and down and to and fro."

He was on night duty when he was called to a house in Belmont Lane by the occupant, Miss Terri West.

"She took me through to the back garden and pointed to an object in the sky. It was at an angle of about 45 degrees from where I was standing and appeared to be flashing," he said.

"I had been looking at it for about ten to 15 minutes when it moved up to about 50 degrees to the right," he added.

Pc Milthorp and his colleague, Pc Paul Isles, watched the UFO through binoculars along with Miss West and four neighbours. Another seven policemen also saw the mystery object.

Pc Milthorp said the UFO gradually

got further away until it eventually faded away altogether. His report has been sent to Scotland Yard and the Civil Aviation Authority.

Asked what he thought the object might have been, Pc Milthorp said: "I can't really come to any firm conclusions. I can only say what I saw."

But he dismissed suggestions that it might have been a weather balloon, explaining that the wind was blowing in the opposite direction to the way the object was moving.

Pc Milthorp made a sketch of the UFO, but the police have refused to release this or a copy of it. Photographs were also taken by the police, but these could not pick out the distant shape in the dark.

Open-minded

Pc Milthorp's "close encounter" brought a mixed reaction from colleagues at the local police station.

"Some of the chaps thought it quite funny and I have had the mickey taken about it," he said. "Others were quite interested."

He said he remained "open-minded" about UFOs and was curious about what he had seen.

Miss O'Neill, from the UFO group, has spoken to eye-witnesses Ruth and Bruno Novelli, of Belmont Lane, about the sighting.

"It is obvious they have seen something very unusual," she said. She was impressed not only by their accounts, but by the reaction of the police. "It is a case I am going to pursue," she added.



Pc Milthorp: "Object had two domes".