



Dots mark sites of Aug. 1 sightings.

Close encounter appears to be sight for scores of eyes

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A Portage man who recently reported seeing a gigantic unidentified flying object near Lawton on Aug. 1 apparently had plenty of company.

More than a dozen other residents of four area counties have reported seeing the same UFO that John Long described in a Kalamazoo Gazette story last Tuesday.

In the story, Long told how he and a friend, Richard Jandura, were fishing on Banksons Lake southeast of Lawton on Aug. 1 when a massive spacecraft flew slowly and silently overhead around 10:30 p.m.

The craft, described by Long and Jandura as being more than 200 yards long with a bright white light in front and three blinking red lights on each side, flew 200 to 300 feet over the lake in a northwesterly direction, but without making any sound, Long said.

Although the craft's front light flashed brilliantly and then went out as it traveled over Banksons Lake for about 15 minutes, apparently none of the other fishermen on the lake saw it, Long had said.

Now, however, it appears that at least three people on the Banksons Lake shoreline that night saw the same thing, while a number of others have called the Gazette to report similar UFO sightings both before and after Long's experience.

Michael Neumann of Marcellus, a student at Three Rivers High School, said he, his mother, his brother and two friends were fishing on Lewis Lake east of Marcellus on the same evening when they saw the same UFO shortly after 10 p.m.

"I saw out of the corner of my eye a huge triangular-shaped object," he said. "We all looked and could