

# UFO seen over Soviet

LONDON (AP) — A British Airways jetliner made a mid-course diversion over the Soviet Union to avoid what the crew reported as an unidentified flying object, an airline spokesman said Saturday.

The incident occurred in April, but first came to light in a front-page article Saturday in the *Times of London*.

Airline spokesman Alan Solloway confirmed that the crew of British Airways flight

009 reported seeing a UFO over the Soviet Union on April 22 while flying from London to Bangkok, Thailand.

He said it was the first such case in the airline's history.

"We have had crews report seeing space debris burning, but we can't recall a UFO being sighted and being logged as a UFO," Solloway said.

The *Times* said all five crew members — "seasoned, skeptical profes-

sionals" — watched fascinated, but utterly bewildered as an object displaying twinkling lights flew directly toward them and then vanished at high speed over the Kazakhstan horizon.

"We were changing over duties on the flight deck. All five of us were together," the newspaper quoted a crew member, First Officer Anthony Colin, 42, as saying.