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# Family and crew tell of UFO

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AUSTRALIAN police are treating seriously reports by two groups of people who said their separate encounters with an unidentified flying object led to a change in their voices.

In the first sighting, a family of four claimed their car was chased by an egg cup-shaped flying object along a remote road, plucked from the ground and covered in a kind of volcanic ash.

The crew of a tuna boat 50 miles away said they, too, were buzzed by a UFO on Wednesday, and their voices became blurred as a result.

Mrs Faye Nowles, a mother of three, also told police her speech and that of her sons became slurred.

Sgt Jim Furnell, of Ceduna police in the state of South Australia, said: "We were a little bit sceptical at first, but after investigating, we are treating the reports very seriously."

He said forensic scientists would examine the blackish powdery ash found inside and outside Mrs Nowles's car. She told police she was driving through the Nullabor Plain from Perth, in Western Australia state, when she saw a glowing object in her rear window at 2.45am.

Sgt Furnell said: "It apparently picked the car up off the road, shook it quite violently and forced the car back with such pressure that one of the tyres was blown.

"While this was happening the family said their voices were distorted, and it was as if they were talking in slow motion."

A lorry and another car driver, travelling in the opposite direction on the same road, also reported seeing the UFO.

Sgt Furnell added: "There were too many witnesses for us not to take it seriously. The car was damaged and was covered in ash from the object, and they were clearly shaken up,"

Sgt Furnell said the crew of the tuna boat could not have known about the Knowles family's experience when they reported a UFO sighting in the Great Australia Bight.

● A team of researchers from the Ukrainian capital, Kiev, say they have come to within 35 yards of a creature they believe to be an abominable snowman in the rugged Pamir mountains in Soviet Central Asia, near the Afghanistan border.