

Australians claim UFO sightings

Police believe it: a car lifted, a truck chased

United Press International

SYDNEY, Australia — An Australian family told police a “huge, bright, glowing object” chased their car down a remote desert highway and sucked it into the air last week, and authorities said they were taking the report seriously.

The family said the encounter occurred Tuesday on a road near Mundrabilla, a village 750 miles east of Perth, on the remote Eyre Highway in the vast desert of southern Australia.

Police Sgt. James Fennell in Ceduna, 370 miles away, said authorities took the report seriously because the vehicle was covered with black ash and its roof was damaged. Three other persons also reported an unidentified flying object.

“The sightings took place hundreds of kilometers apart and they had no reason to conspire,” Fennell said.

He said four persons — Fay Knowles, 48, and her sons, Sean, 21,

Patrick, 24, and Wayne, 18 — told authorities they were in the car when it suddenly was sucked into the air and then dropped back onto the highway, blowing out one of the rear tires.

“I inspected the car when it arrived at Ceduna,” Fennell said. “The car was covered in a thick coating of black ash and there was ash inside the car. There was slight damage to the roof of the car.

“The family were extremely distraught. Something happened out there. They said their voices became slurred and abnormally slow.”

Fennell said there were three other reports of UFO sightings that night.

“Apart from the family’s report, a truck driver reported being followed by a UFO on the highway, a tuna-spotter aircraft said it spotted a bright light near the highway, and later a fishing trawler in the Australian Bight reported a hovering UFO,” Fennell said.

The family told police they were driving from their home in Perth to

Melbourne when the incident occurred.

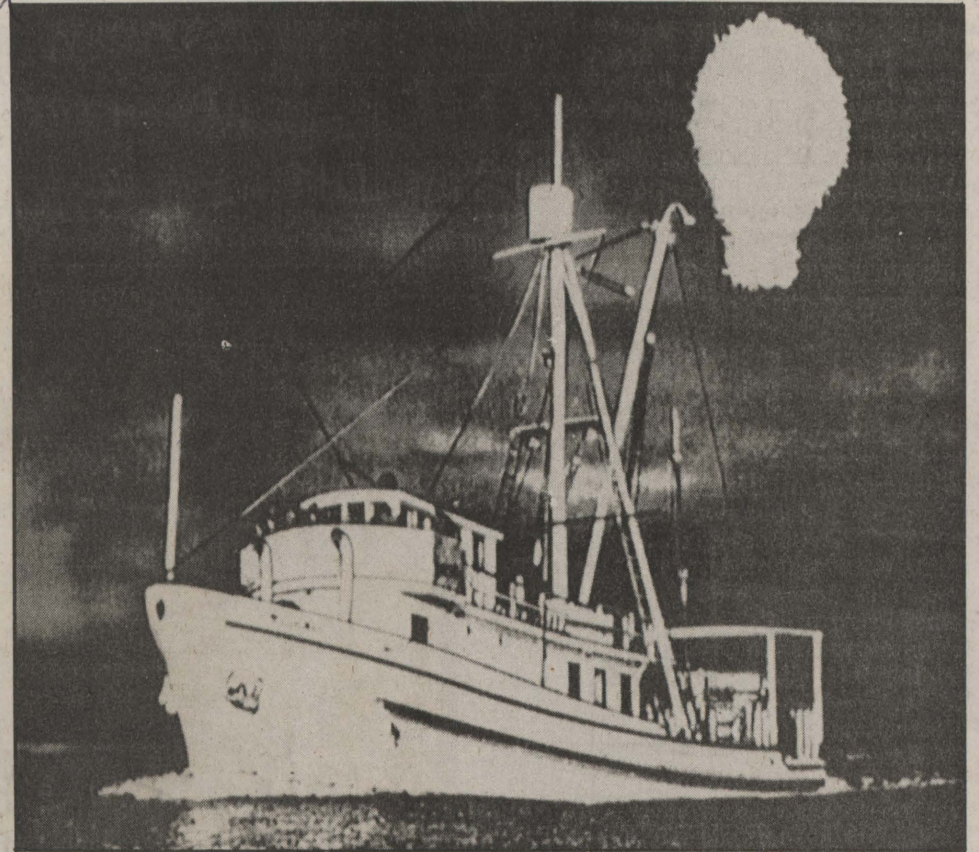
Mrs. Knowles, who was driving, said she swerved to miss “a huge, bright, glowing object” stopped on the road in front of them.

“We were doing about 110 kilometers an hour [66 m.p.h.] when it came over us and suddenly lifted the car off the road,” Sean Knowles said. “We felt the thump on the roof, and then it started lifting us. We were frightened and began to yell, but our voices had changed.”

“It was like we were in a time warp,” Mrs. Knowles said. “I reached out of the window and touched the hood. It was soft, warm, and spongy and I pulled my hand back into the car.”

In Ceduna, police constable Bob Hagen said, “Reports of UFO sighting usually don’t hold much water with us, but after checking their car and seeing them, we think there could be something in this.”

Jim Riecken
THE RECORD (NJ)
Jan 24 1988



AP PHOTO

Drawing of “huge, bright, glowing object” as described in sightings hundreds of miles apart in Australia. “Something happened out there,” a police officer said.

OPPONENTS CLASH AT MANAGUA RALLY
MANAGUA, Nicaragua — Pro- and anti-government

dition of anonymity, said it was the first helicopter downed by the rebels this year.

ic into the outback desert, police said.

The earthquake hit the town one day after three powerful