

16 SEP 1988

Spaceship sighting claimed

FOUR friends claim to have spotted a spaceship hovering above a Laindon shopping centre.

The friends were walking through Essex Close, when they saw the spaceship at about 10.15pm on Friday. One of them, who asked not to be named, said: "It was like a black diamond with lights, it was quite low and really big and silent.

"It seemed to be there a couple of minutes then just went past. It couldn't have been a plane. I have never seen anything like it before."

Hovering

He said the spaceship was only about 10 — 15ft long and appeared to be hovering at about 200ft.

His sighting has been backed up by independent reports of a UFO spotted in the Thames estuary,

Southend area earlier in the week.

UFO expert Ron West said: "On September 4, four independent witnesses saw what they described as a multi-coloured square-shaped object, lighting up like a Christmas tree.

"This was seen over the Thames estuary and Southend area."

Appeal

Mr West, who is a member of the East Anglian UFO Society, has appealed for anyone who may have witnessed either of these two events to ring the UFO hotline 0728 830757.