

- 7 SEP 1989

Riddle of UFO stumps couple

A YORK couple said they were baffled today after seeing a large, bright "cigar-shaped" object hovering over the city's racecourse last night.

Mr Eric Fairburn and his wife Cathleen were watching television in their lounge overlooking the Knavesmire at around 8.30 when a large bright light in the sky caught their attention.

"My wife saw this funny light in the sky and at first I thought it was the gas jet from a hot-air balloon because we see a lot of them go over.

Flashing

"After studying it, I saw the light flashing on and off, similar to a beacon on a police car.

"And when I looked at it through my race glasses it was so bright it seemed to be giving off little stars and it made the proper shape of it fuzzy."

Mr Fairburn said the object hovered for about two minutes, then the flashing lights became faster and it whizzed at an incredible speed across the sky.

RAF Linton on Ouse, Leeming and Church Fenton all confirmed there were no military aircraft in the area at that time last night.

A spokesman for York police said they had received no other reports of the sighting.