

Two airline pilots see it —and the experts are puzzled

SPACE experts were last night trying to solve the riddle of a brilliant flash in the Atlantic sky 200 miles off Lands End yesterday. It was spotted by two American airline pilots as they flew towards Europe.

One of the pilots Capt. Edward Morrison, 47, said to London later:

"It was 6.34 a.m. when I saw the object. It was at about 100,000ft. It seemed to be burning as it travelled across the sky from north-west to south-east.

"Then it exploded with a sort of magnesium glare lighting up the whole sky.

"As it disintegrated, it left a trail of smoke.

"I've never seen anything like it before. I've seen meteorites — we all have. But they are nothing like this."

Confirmed

The other pilot, Captain R. A. Boffo, who was flying to Frankfurt, later confirmed the sighting with the German air authorities.

What was it?

Dr. Desmond King-Hele, of the Farnborough Space Department, Hants, said: "It sounds like something re-entering from Space. A satellite or booster rocket."

"But I know of nothing due to re-enter at that time. In fact, nothing is due until next month."