

Is Mars Checking on Us? You Bet, Say UFO Believers

From Wire Reports

Have the Martians, if any, becoming aware that Mariner 4 is flirting with their planet, sent spacecraft of their own, if any, to find out what's cooking on little old Earth?

Earthlings who believe in UFOs (unidentified flying objects) contend that such is the course of events, and they are receiving what they say are confirming reports.

Expert aircraft observers told of sighting a glowing UFO near the airport in Canberra, Australia, yesterday and confessed they were baffled.

Six members of the traffic control tower crew said the object hung suspended at about 5,000 feet for 40 minutes. When the sun glistened off it, it became clearly visible, they said. It disappeared when an Air Force plane was sent out to identify it.

Experts are now wondering whether it was coincidence that the object was



sighted shortly before nearby Tidbinbilla tracking station was scheduled to pick up Mariner signals. The station had unusual difficulty in locking on to Mariner at the time.

The sighting also came as Goldstone tracking station in California received irregularities in messages while Mariner was photographing Mars.

This was the fifth reported sighting of a mysterious object recently. Others were in Warminster, England; in the Antarctic and over the Azores and Portugal.