ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

CONFIDENTIAL

File Number 5/7/AIR

Date Opened 21/11/53	Unit BASE SQUADRON R.A.A.F. WILLIAMTOWN N.S.W.	File Number 5/7/AIR. Part Number /
Originator BASE SERVICES FLIGHT.	Subject INTELLIGENCE	
Cross References Inside Cover		Instructions on Back Cover

TITLE

UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS

1 Referred to for action or information	2 Minute or enclosure	3 Date	4 Initials	1 Referred to for action or information	2 Minute or enclosure	3 Date	4 Initials	1 Referred to for action or information	2 Minute or enclosure	3 Date	4 Initials
O.C. B.S.F	1A.	7/12									
CDT	4A-D.	8/3 12/3.									
CDT	7A.	22/3 23/3									
O C	MIN 1.	13/8									
SOA	10A B	14SEP 10 APR									
INTELL OFFICER.	HQ 3A 14A	16 DEC.									
INTELL. OFF.	15A	23/10.									
INTELL. OFF.	M3	24/10									
W.A.O.	M4	25/10									
O.C	25A	1 Dec									

CONFIDENTIAL

Form A56B (Revised Feb. 1951) D.47/6/4.51—C/11/66

Report on Aerial Object Observed Forms available Wing

Orderly Room.

SCHOOL OF LAND/AIR WARFARE
R.A.A.F. WILLIAMTOWN

MINUTE SHEET Reference.....

1

O.C.

Station 2.K.O rang at 1500 hours to say that as a result of a news item on the midday news today advising that a glowing object had been sighted in the sky last evening and that Air Force authorities were interested in receiving reports the following persons had contacted them

(2) Mr Barry Holman and Mr Lester Wayland both of Rhonda St. FASSIFERN.

(3) They reported seeing a bright silver glow in the sky at approx 1800 hours - it was larger than the moon - rotating rapidly and vanished abruptly.

Ron Bird.
FLT: LT
ADJ.

10-8-54

2.

Note of Action
Ref Enc 9A.

(2) F/L Trebilco interviewed Mr Holman on 20th Aug

Ron Bird
FLT: LT
ADJ.

23-8-54.

M. 3.

Intell Off.

1. Ref encl 12A to 15A.
2. Would you please answer these letters as requested by S.A.O.

C. Blundelstone
W.A.O

4. 10. 56.

4.

W.A.O.

1. Ref. min. 3.
2. Answers have already been despatched to the civilians concerned.

C. Bating F/Lt
W. INTEL. OFF.

24 OCT 56

NOTE OF ACTION
Ref E25A

2. Telephoned Mr BRAGG at 2115 hours - no contact
3. No aircraft missing, not considered that full report in terms of E.1A. warranted.

OVER

1 Dec 56.

R.A.A.F. Form A60
(MAY, 1945)
147166 5/45 600 Rm.

File Number	Title
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Cross References to be Made Above

25A

Flying Officer L.M. BRUHL(01530)
Air Traffic Control Section
Base Squadron
RAAF Base
WILLIAMTOWN NSW

1st December 1958

Officer Commanding
RAAF Base
WILLIAMTOWN NSW

REPORT OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

1. On the night of 29th November I was Duty controller at RAAF Williamtown and at 2044 hours I received a call from Mr. Frank BRAAG of Aberdeen.

2. Mr. BRAAG advised that at 0823 pm. he and others saw a bright light appear from the North west and disappear to the south east. The light was travelling very quickly and appeared to be very high. No noise was heard. The light was seen for a duration of 3 minutes flashing on for 3½ seconds and off for 6½ seconds throughout that period of time. Mr. BRAAG requested that I pass his compliments to Group Captain EATON .

3. At 2043 hours I checked with Area Control Centre Mascot as to whether any aircraft were in the vicinity of Aberdeen at the time and was advused tgat an RAAF Dakota was en-route from Amberley to Richmond and would have passed east of Aberdeen about this time. This aircraft was due at Richmond at approximately 2100 hours.

4. At 2045 hours I phoned Group Captain EATON and passed on details of telecom with Mr. Frank BRAAG. These details have been logged.

L. M. Bruhl
(L.M. BRUHL)
Flying Officer

Flying Officer L.M. BRUHL(01330)
Air Traffic Control Section
Base Squadron
RAAF Base
WILLIAMTOWN NSW

1st December 1958

Officer Commanding
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L.M. Bruhl
(L.M. BRUHL)
Flying Officer

RESTRICTED 5/7/Air

24a.

W.5/10/Air (2A)

Headquarters
R.A.A.F.
Williamtown
New South Wales

26th October, 1956

Headquarters
Home Command
R.A.A.F.
Penrith
New South Wales

(Base Squadron copy)

UNUSUAL SIGHTING - AERIAL OBJECT

1. Attached hereto are reports obtained from the undermentioned personnel with reference to the sighting of an unusual aerial object at approximately 2015 hours on 11th October, 1956:-

Service Personnel

Plt.Off.	J.I.	THOMSON	(032446)	G.D.Pilot
A26698	F.Sgt.	PECK	C.H.	Airman Pilot
A216259	F.Sgt.	COLLITS	H.A.	Airman Pilot

Civilian Personnel

J.T.	BOURKE	Armidale
J.	McKEON	Taree
B.	Taylor	Broadbeach N.S.W.
W.D.	GAY	Allora, Qld.
N.	GORTON	Bundaberg, Qld.

2. Collation of information gathered from these reports indicates that the sighting was undoubtedly of a meteorite moving very rapidly in a southerly direction and appearing to strike the ground in the near vicinity.

3. It is considered that, in the absence of any positive information which could possibly establish an approximate point of impact with the ground a search for any remnants of the object would be pointless and consequently is not recommended.

(A.J. KEATING)
Flight Lieutenant
for Air Officer Commanding

RESTRICTED

Stockton 174/175

B.5/7/Air (23A)

Headquarters
R.A.A.F.
Williamtown
New South Wales

25th October 1956

Mr. J. T. Bourke
Land Board Office
Armidale
New South Wales

Dear Sir,

METEORITE SIGHTING

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 23rd October, 1956, with reference to the sighting of the meteor on 11th October, 1956, and wish to thank you for the information provided and also for the interest shown in forwarding this information on to us for examination.

Your action is most appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

(A.J. KEATING)
Flight Lieutenant
for Air Officer Commanding

Stockton 174/175

B.5/7/Air (22A)

Headquarters
R.A.A.F.
Williamtown
New South Wales

25th October 1956

Mr. N. Gorton
Mullett Creek
via Bundaberg
Queensland

Dear Sir,

METEORITE SIGHTING

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 14th October, 1956, with reference to the sighting of the meteor on 11th October, 1956, and wish to thank you for the information provided and also for the interest shown in forwarding this information on to us for examination.

Your action is most appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

(A.J. KEATING)
Flight Lieutenant
for Air Officer Commanding

21A

A.270
ES.521

Phone No.....

P. O. Box .....

Department of Lands.

New South Wales.

LAND BOARD OFFICE,

ARMIDALE,
23rd. October 1956

IN REPLY, ADDRESS: THE DISTRICT SURVEYOR AND GIVE THIS NUMBER

L.B. .....

The Commanding Officer,
R.A.A.F.,
Williamstown.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your report, via the A.B.C. news and the Daily Telegraph of the I2-I0-56,"regarding sighting of Meteor", by one of your officers, "in the vicinity of Karuah", on the night of the II-I2-56.

I am a field officer of the Lands Department of N.S.W., and, on the night of the II-I2-56 I was camped with another employee in the Yarrowitch area.

While sitting around the campfire about 8.30pm. on the said night, we observed a brilliant flash of light and swung quickly to the north and witnessed the "Meteor" descending in a blaze of brightness; this brightness illuminated the whole area and was more brilliant than any flash of lightning or anything we had ever witnessed. Because of this brilliance we are of the opinion that the object probably descended in the locality. After discussing the subject for sometime we concluded that it may have been the crash of an aircraft so a bearing was taken , 35degrees; on reading your report we have now decided it was probably the same object sighted by your officer.

The Surveyor General has been advised and I am now forwarding this information to you , trusting it may be of some benefit, if you are still interested in the matter.

J. A. Bourke

Land Inspector.

RECEIVED
25 OCT 1956
HEADQUARTERS

Forwarded through

The District Surveyor,
Armidale.

I advised Mr. Land Inspector Bourke to give you the above information.

Geo. A. Baillie.

District Surveyor,
ARMIDALE.
23rd October 56

RECEIVED
24 OCT 1956
BASE SQUADRON:
WILLIAMTOWN:

PASSED TO
HQ..... 5ACS.....
Basqdn..... 78 Wing.....
SCLAW..... 75 Sqdn.....
20TRANU ... 76 Sqdn.....
ATCC..... 77 Sqdn.....
OPS.....

Stockton 174/175

20A

B.5/7/Air (15A)

Headquarters
R.A.A.F.
Williamtown
New South Wales

19th October 1956

Mr. W. D. Gay
M.S. 765
Allora
Queensland

Dear Sir,

METEORITE SIGHTING

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 13th October, 1956, with reference to the sighting of the meteor on 11th October, 1956, and wish to thank you for the information provided and also for the interest shown in forwarding this information on to us for examination.

Your action is most appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

(A.J. KEATING)
Flight Lieutenant
for Air Officer Commanding

Stockton 174/175

19A

B.5/7/Air (1717)

Headquarters
R.A.A.F.
Williamtown
New South Wales

19th October 1956

Mr. B. Taylor
Broadbeach Flats
Broadbeach
New South Wales

Dear Sir,

METEORITE SIGHTING

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 13th October, 1956, with reference to the sighting of the meteor on 11th October, 1956, and wish to thank you for the information provided and also for the interest shown in forwarding this information on to us for examination.

Your action is most appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

(A.J. KEATING)
Flight Lieutenant
for Air Officer Commanding

Stockton 174/175

18A

B.5/7/Air

Headquarters
R.A.A.F.
Williamtown
New South Wales

23rd October 1956

Mrs. Lister
Taree
New South Wales

Dear Madam,

METEORITE SIGHTING

I wish to thank you for your recent telephone call concerning the sighting of the meteor on 11th October, 1956, and also for the interest shown in passing this information on to us.

Your action is most appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

(K.J. OATES)
Flight Lieutenant
for Air Officer Commanding

Stockton 174/175

17A

B.5/7/Air (16a)

Headquarters
R.A.A.F.
Williamtown
New South Wales

19th October 1956

Mr. J. McKeon
4 Nicoll Street
Taree
New South Wales

Dear Sir,

METEORITE SIGHTING

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 16th October, 1956, with reference to the sighting of the meteor on 11th October, 1956, and wish to thank you for the information provided and also for the interest shown in forwarding this information on to us for examination.

Your action is most appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

(A.J. KEATING)
Flight Lieutenant
for Air Officer Commanding

Intelligence Officer
No. 78 (F) Wing
R.A.A.F.
Williamtown
New South Wales

16A

17th October, 1956

Officer Commanding
No. 78 (F) Wing
R.A.A.F.
Williamtown
New South Wales

UNUSUAL SIGHTING - AERIAL OBJECT

1. Attached hereto are reports obtained from the undermentioned personnel with reference to the sighting of an unusual aerial object at approximately 2015 hours on 11th October, 1956:-

Plt.Off.	J.I.	THOMSON	(032446)	G.D.Pilot
A26698	F.Sgt.	PECK	C.H.	Airman Pilot
A216259	F.Sgt.	COLLITS	H.A.	Airman Pilot

2. Telephone and written reports have also been received from other residents of the district confirming the sighting but varying widely in estimated points of contact with the ground.

3. Collation of information gathered from these reports indicates that the sighting was undoubtedly of a meteorite moving very rapidly in a southerly direction and appearing to strike the ground in the near vicinity.

4. It is considered that, in the absence of any positive information which could possibly establish an approximate point of impact with the ground a search for any remnants of the object would be pointless and consequently is not recommended.

(C.P. GUNDELACH)
Squadron Leader
for Intelligence Officer

REPORT ON AERIAL OBJECT OBSERVED

1. Name of Observer: Plt.Off. J.I. THOMSON (032446)

2. Address of Observer: No. 3 (F) Sqn. R.A.A.F. Williamtown

3. Occupation of Observer: General Duties - Pilot.

4. Date and Time of observation (Time given in 24 hour clock zonal time)
11th October, 1956 - 2015K

5. Period of observation(s): Two seconds.

6. Manner of observation: (Give details of own position by map reference if possible, or by known landmarks, and describe any equipment used in the observation).
Airborne at 15,000 feet - visual - 20 miles north east of R.A.A.F. Williamtown.

7. Where was object first observed, e.g. overhead, coming from behind a hill, over the horizon, etc.
Approaching from starboard and losing height rapidly

8. What first attracted observer's attention, e.g. light or noise
Bright greenish-jellow light.

9. Did object appear as light or as a definite object.
Round ball of fire.

10. If there was more than one object, how many were there, and what was their formation.
N/A.

11. What was the colour of the light or object. Greenish-white with orange tail.

12. What was its apparent shape. Greenish ball.

13. .....

13. Was any detail of structure observable. Nil

14. Was any method of propulsion obvious. Nil

15. Was there any sound. Nil

16 * Height, or angle of elevation. Initial sighting 5° above at 058°T
Time two seconds. Last sighting 30° below at 310°T

17. * Speed, or angular velocity. Very fast

18. State any experience which enables observer to be reasonably certain about the answers given to 16 and 17
Aircrew training

* Since it is normally impossible to extimate the height and speed of a strange object it will usually be better to endeavout to determine the angle of elevation of the object, the angle through which it moved, and the time taken to do this.

Report of Aerial object observed (cont.)

19. Direction of flight with reference to landmarks or points of the compass.

South South West.

20. Did the object remain on a straight path, deviate or manoeuvre at all.

Straight path.

21. Was any trail of exhaust, vapour or light seen. Orange trail

22. Where did object disappear, e.g. in mid-air, behind a hill, over the horizon.

Mid air

23. Existence of any physical evidence such as fregments, photographs, or other supporting evidence.

Nil

24. Weather conditions experienced at time(s) or observation(s)

Very good - excellent visibility.

25. Location of any air traffic in the vicinity at the time of sighting.

Nil

26. Location of any meteorological stations in the general area

R.A.A.F. Williamtown.

27. Any additional information. Plt.Off. THOMSON's initial sighting was a brilliant green light approaching him from slightly above and on his starboard quarter. The object which appeared to be a green ball with an orange tail passed across him from starboard to port and downwards. His last sighting was of a flaming ball with an orange tail disappearing below him but which appeared to disintegrate prior to contact with the ground. The time between initial sightingand object exploding was approximately three seconds.

REPORT ON AERIAL OBJECT OBSERVED

1. Name of Observer. A216259 F.SGT. COLLITS H.A.

2. Address of Observer. No. 3 (F) Sqn. R.A.A.F. Williamtown

3. Occupation of Observer. Airman Aircrew - Pilot

4. Date and Time of observation (Time given in 24 hour clock zonal time)

11th October, 1956 - 2015K

5. Period of observation(s) Four Seconds.

6. Manner of observation: (Give details of own position by map reference if possible, or by known landmarks, and describe any equipment used in the observation).

Tarmac William own - visual.

7. Where was object first observed, e.g. overhead, coming from behind a hill, over the horizon, etc.

Over horizon, low down.

8. What first attracted observer's attention, e.g. light or noise

Brilliant greenish-yellow light.

9. Did object appear as light or as a definite object.

A light

10. If there was more than one object, how many were there, and what was their formation.

N/A

11. What was the colour of the light or object. yellow or orange

12. What was its apparent shape

13. Round ball of fire with orange tail.

13. Was any detail of structure observable. Nil.

14. Was any method of propulsion obvious. No

15. Was there any sound. No

16 * Height, or angle of elevation. $1^{\circ} - 2^{\circ}$

17. * Speed, or angular velocity. Very Fast

18. State any experience which enables observer to be reasonably certain about the answers given to 16 and 17

Aircrew training.

* Since it is normally impossible to extimate the height and speed of a strange object it will usually be better to endeavout to determine the angle of elevation of the object, the angle through which it moved, and the time taken to do this.

Report of Aerial object observed (cont.)

19. Direction of flight with reference to landmarks or points of the compass.

South South West

20. Did the object remain on a straight path, deviate or manoeuvre at all.

Maintained straight path.

21. Was any trail of exhaust, vapour or light seen. An orange trace

22. Where did object disappear, e.g. in mid-air, behind a hill, over the horizon.

Over the horizon

23. Existence of any physical evidence such as fregments, photographs, or other supporting evidence.

Nil

24. Weather conditions experienced at time(s) or observation(s)

Very clear with good visibility.

25. Location of any air traffic in the vicinity at the time of sighting.

One service aircraft 20 miles north east of base (see Plt.Off. THOMSON's report).

26. Location of any meteorological stations in the general area

R.A.A.F. Williamtown

27. Any additional information. This observer states that in addition to the sighting on contact with the ground the meteorite exploded and that what he thought was a fragment rebounded into the air also leaving an orange trail which just fizzled out in a similar manner to Questions 25,26, and 27 to be answered b interogator.

a Very pistol flare.

REPORT ON AERIAL OBJECT OBSERVED

1. Name of Observer A26698 F.Sgt. PECK C.H.

2. Address of Observer No. 3 (F) Squadron

3. Occupation of Observer Airman Aircrew - Pilot

4. Date and Time of observation (Time given in 24 hour clock zonal time)
11th October, 1956 - 2015K.

5. Period of observation(s) Three seconds

6. Manner of observation: (Give details of own position by map reference if possible, or by known landmarks, and describe any equipment used in the observation).
Tarmac Williamtown visual.

7. Where was object first observed, e.g. overhead, coming from behind a hill, over the horizon, etc.
Over horizon, very low down.

8. What first attracted observer's attention, e.g. light or noise
Blue-green light reflected from hangars.

9. Did object appear as light or as a definite object.
A light.

10. If there was more than one object, how many were there, and what was their formation.
N/A

11. What was the colour of the light or object Orange

12. What was its apparent shape Round with an orange tail

13. .....

13. Was any detail of structure observable No.

14. Was any method of propulsion obvious No.

15. Was there any sound No.

16 * Height, or angle of elevation 1° - 2°

17. * Speed, or angular velocity Very rapid

18. State any experience which enables observer to be reasonably certain about the answers given to 16 and 17
Aircrew training.

* Since it is normally impossible to extimate the height and speed of a strange object it will usually be better to endeavout to determine the angle of elevation of the object, the angle through which it moved, and the time taken to do this.

Report of Aerial object observed (cont.)

19. Direction of flight with reference to landmarks or points of the compass.

S.S.W.

20. Did the object remain on a straight path, deviate or manoeuvre at all.

Maintained straight path.

21. Was any trail of exhaust, vapour or light seen. An orange trail of light

22. Where did object disappear, e.g. in mid-air, behind a hill, over the horizon.

Over the horizon

23. Existence of any physical evidence such as fregments, photographs, or other supporting evidence.

Nil.

24. Weather conditions experienced at time(s) or observation(s)

Very clear with excellent visibility

25. Location of any air traffic in the vicinity at the time of sighting.

One service aircraft 20 miles north east of base.

(see Plt. Off. THOMSON's report.)

26. Location of any meteorological stations in the general area

R.A.A.F. Williamtown

27. Any additional information. The attention of this observer was first attracted by the reflection of a brilliant greenish light from the hangars. He then noticed the object approaching low over the horizon losing height very rapidly and travelling in a south south west direction.

Questions 25,26, and 27 to be answered b interogator.

15A

Mullett Ck.
via Bundaberg Qld
(240 miles North of Brisbane)
14—10—56

R.A.A.F. Williamtown.

Just thought I'd let you know that last Thursday night 11th inst. at approx 8.15 p.m. My wife & I were chasing the calves into the other paddock" I saw in the south East. a bright light burst from below some low clouds. & a bright object which appeared round, & smaller than the moon, but much brighter. (a light greenish colour) float down & disappear behind ~~the~~ a belt of trees.

My wife, who was looking the other way exclaimed "Ooo! see the lightening!!"

I was a bit late in seeing it (evidently a meteor). As it was about 20° up & going south west as it fell. I did not see it explode. the timber would be about 5° high from where I stood.

W. Gordon.

File

sion By

METEOR NEAR SABRE JET

SYDNEY, Friday. — A blazing object believed to have been a meteor exploded near a Sabre jet aircraft near Williamtown R.A.A.F. station, 100 miles north of Sydney, last night.

The jet pilot, Pilot Officer Jock Thompson, said today that the object had whistled past his plane about 300 yards away at a height of 15,000 feet.

"It gave me quite a start," he said. "About 6000 feet it changed colour from green to orange and then blew up."

He said that two other pilots had also seen the object explode and fragments hurtle to the ground.

R.A.A.F. officers said today that it was "most unusual" for a meteor to be seen close to a plane. They usually burned themselves out in the upper atmosphere.

SPEED WAGE

"Sunday Mercury" (Queensland) 13-10-56

O. C.
R. A. A. F.
Williamtown.
N. S. W.

J. McKeon
39
4 Nicoll St.
Taree
16/10/56

The Officer In Charge,
R.A.A.F.
Williamstown.

Dear Sir,

On Thursday evening last (11/10/56) about 8 pm, I was travelling about 3 miles North of Nabiac on the Pacific Highway when a kite fell.

It appears to fall between the Highway and the sea, in a direct line between that point and the sea.

Yours faithfully
J. McKeon

Sent off 78 items

Blazing meteor zips past jet

NEWCASTLE: A blazing meteor went within 200 feet of a Sabre jet plane flying at 15,000 feet north of Williamtown RAAF base last night.

The plane was on a normal night-flying exercise when the pilot saw the meteor pass close to his plane.

The meteor exploded about 6,000 feet below him.

Two other pilots in the same exercise saw the meteor hit the ground after the explosion and parts of it bounce.

They radioed control at Williamtown, believing the plane might have crashed.

A RAAF pilot said that meteors generally burnt themselves out in the higher atmosphere.

He had not heard of a meteor having passed close to a plane before.

Flats
ch.
56.
13A

Herald 4
having heard the
radio that
in the Karuah area
moved he made it was
thought that the following
information might be of

Broadbeach Flats
Broadbeach.
13/12/56.

13A

To C.O.
R.A.A.F.
Williamtown.

Dear Sir
with regard to the attached report - and - having heard over the radio that a search in the Karuah area needed we made it was thought that the following information might be of

interest to those concerned.
Travelling south
from Brisbane about
8 pm - 8.30 pm Thurs.
evening a gigantic
flare lit up the field
in which the meteor
appeared to crash -
the location of which
is on the southern bank
of the Coomera River -
about ½ mile from the
Pacific Highway and

on the left hand side of the moon.

The spectacle was witnessed completely by my passenger Mrs. L. Ellis of 2 Boomerang Rd. Kengal

Yours faithfully
B. Tapper

T1503

Officer in Charge,
Williamtown R.A.A.F Station,
New South Wales.
Aust.

Intelligence officer
78 Army

Since you are investigating the "Rebecca" incident, the attached letter is referred to you. Will you please ack. receipt and thank the writer for his (or her) interest in sending it.

A King Wyld

M. P. 765 Allora, 124
Queensland.
13. 10. 1956.

Dear Sir,

Noticed in today's 'Toowoomba Chronicle' re explosion of a meteor observed by some of your pilots on Thursday night, time not stated.

At 8.15 p.m. Thursday, I observed a bright white light in a S.E. direction, which would be in your direction, it appeared to be just on the horizon & quickly disappeared below it.

It seemed to be in two flashes, & lit up the sky to right overhead, & I think it may have been of sufficient intensity to enable me to read newsprint.

If you know the air distance between Williamtown & Amberley, Qld., & add on a few miles you would have the approximate distance from which I noticed the meteor, & I am sure it may have been observed by others at greater distances.

Yours faithfully,

W D Gay.

Pass to Intelligence officer
N078(F) wing

Stockton 174, 175

11A

B.5/7/AIR(11A)

Headquarters
R.A.A.F. Williamtown
New South Wales

11th April 1956

Mr. E.H. Jones
57 Fullerton Street
Stockton
New South Wales

Dear Sir,

Reference is made to your letter dated 7th April 1956 in which you reported your observation of an object in the sky on the 23rd March 1956.

Investigations reveal that shortly before the time you sighted the object at Fisherman's Beach a white balloon was released from the Meteorological Office at Williamtown and it is believed that the balloon was the object you saw. It is most likely that the bursting of the balloon was the cause of it disappearing from your view.

Your interest in reporting your observation on this occasion is appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

(H.C. KING)
Wing Commander
for Air Officer Commanding

10A

Tasman Beach.
7/4/86.

The Adjutant
Base Squadron
R AAF. Williamtown,

About ten days ago I phoned you with reference to a strange object.
Herewith you will find my report please excuse the delay which is due to circumstances beyond my control.

Yours Sincerely.
E A Jones.
ex. 443125 RAAF.

PASSED TO
HQ..... 5ACS.....
Basqdn..... 73 Wing.....
SCLAW..... 75 Sqdn.....
20TRANU.... 76 Sqdn.....
ATCC..... 77 Sqdn.....
OPS.....

5/7/air

9 APR 1956

10B.

Fisherman Beach.
6/4/56.

To whom it May Concern.

I wish to report at approximately 3 PM on Sat 23 March while at Fishermans Beach I observed an object of interest at a great height.
The object was circular and was bluish white in color and readily visible against a blue sky.
No features were visible owing to the height of the object which I first thought was a met balloon. After watching the object for about five minutes, I pointed it out to Mr Frank Burchnell of.
Ranjan Rd.
Fern Bay.
& Mr Sax Jobe an upholsterer of Newcastle we watched it for several minutes more & discussed its behaviour, it was travelling in a small orbit without gaining or loosing height. It finally turned on edge & disappeared without any indication.

of direction.
On the afternoon in question there was scattered cloud at about 5,000 - 6,000 ft with an easterly wind.

E A Jones
Ex. 413125 R.A.A.F.

Residential address. 57 Fullerton ST.
STOCKTON.

RESTRICTED

Stockton 174, 175

9A.

5/7/Air(9A)

School of Land/Air Warfare
Williamtown
New South Wales

MIN
2.

13th August 1954

Mr. Barry Holman
Rhonda Street
Fassifern

Dear Sir,

I understand that on the evening of 9th August whilst in company with Mr. Lester Wayland, you noticed a glowing object in the sky at about 6 p.m.

2. As the R.A.A.F. are interested in collating data on all such objects it would be appreciated if you could advise when it would be convenient for an R.A.A.F. officer to interview you.

Yours faithfully,

RB

(R.A. BINT)
Flight Lieutenant
for Commandant

RESTRICTED

8A.

From:- Wing Commander N.T. Quinn, D.F.C.
T/Commandant

School of Land/Air Warfare
R.A.A.F.
Williamtown
New South Wales.

22nd March 1954

Dear Mr H

Further to my letter of the 12th March, I would appreciate further discussion with you on the sightings you have mentioned, the sightings by other people as reported through you and the methods employed.

2. Would you care to have lunch with me some day next week. Wednesday the 31st would suit me best but we could arrange another day if the 31st does not suit you. There will be an Offensive Air Support Demonstration on the Morna Point Weapons Range that morning; if you care to watch the demonstration, I would be pleased to meet you here at R.A.A.F. Williamtown and we could go out together in my car.

3. The demonstration commences at ten minutes to nine. It is necessary to leave R.A.A.F. Williamtown not later than 8-15 a.m. This may be too early for you. If you do not wish to attend the demonstration but can come to lunch, I would suggest that you arrive here about 11-45 a.m. If you are likely to have any difficulty in making suitable transport arrangements, I could possibly send a staff car for you.

Y. S.
WQ

Mark Howarth, F.R.A.S.
Grange Mount Observatory
Bull Street
Mayfield
Newcastle N.S.W.

CONFIDENTIAL

TELEPHONE: B0706

7.A.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. 5/3/8/Air(13A)

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

Headquarters Home Command
Penrith. 1.W.
New South Wales.

17th March, 1954.

School of Land/Air Warfare,
R.A.A.F.
Williamtown

REPORTS ON UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS

1. Forwarded herewith are your reports on sightings of unusual objects your 5/7/Air(5A) 12th March 1954 refers.

2. Your attention is drawn to Headquarters Home Command 5/3/8/Air(2A) with pro-forma for the reporting of unusual objects. In this case the civilians concerned will have to be interviewed and the relevant information obtained from them in accordance with the instructions.

(F. HEADLAM)
Group Captain
for Air Officer Commanding

Encl.

CONFIDENTIAL

6A

Stockton 174, 175

5/7/Air (6A)

School of Land/Air Warfare
Williamtown
New South Wales

12th March 1954

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letters dated 28th and 29th January 1954 addressed to Group Captain Davis and for the enclosed report from Miss Banfield of New Lambton. Copies of your correspondence have been forwarded to our Command Headquarters.

I am forwarding herewith a small quantity of a pro forma which is used by the Air Force for the purpose of standardising reports of unusual sightings and obtaining the fullest information in this regard.

Your interest in this matter is very much appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

(N.T. QUINN)
Wing Commander
T/Commandant

Encl.

Mr. Mark Howarth, F.R.A.S.
Grange Mount Observatory
Bull Street
Mayfield

Stockton 174, 175

5A-G.

5/7/Air (5A)

School of Land/Air Warfare
Williamtown
New South Wales

12th March 1954

Headquarters, Home Command
R.A.A.F.
Penrith 1.W.
New South Wales

UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS

1. Forwarded herewith are copies of correspondence received by this unit from Mr. MARK HOWARTH, F.R.A.S., Grange Mount Observatory, together with reports received by him of sightings of phenomena in the Newcastle district.

(N.T. QUINN)
Wing Commander
T/Commandant

Encl

5B

Copy

MARK HOWARTH, F.R.A.S.

Grange Mount Observatory
Bull Street
Mayfield
Newcastle, N.S.W.

28th January, 1954.

Group Captain R.H. Davies, O.B.E.
Officer Commander,
WILLIAMTOWN.

Dear Captain Davies,

Further to my communication of the 26th instant, I have now received reports from the following:

Mrs. Harkins, Elebana who saw the object at 7.45 p.m., on Thursday, 21st instant, reports it being a bright blue, slightly elliptical, in the west moving south.

Mr. Kilburn and a friend, connected with Wangi Power Station, when at Fassifern saw the object, again about 7.45 p.m., in the west, travelling south. He reports it, as being a whitish colour with a blue tail.

Mr. Hal Hooker of Lambton, and his wife report seeing the object about 7.45 p.m., through their car window in the west at Lisarow, when coming up from Sydney.

These all appear to be excellent observers particularly Mr. Kilburn and Mr. Hooker who, incidentally played cricket for N.S.W. Both Mr. Hooker and Mr. Kilburn estimate it being at an angle of 45°, Mr. Hooker was under the impression it was dropping.

Yours faithfully,

(sgd.) Mark Howarth

MW2058

5e

Copy

MARK HOWARTH, F.R.A.S.

Grange Mount Observatory
Bull Street
Mayfield
Newcastle, N.S.W.

28th January, 1954.

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Officer Commander,
WILLIAMTOWN.

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Yours faithfully,

(sgd.) Mark Howarth

Copy 5D

MARK HOWARTH, F.R.A.S.

Grange Mount Observatory
Bull Street
Mayfield
Newcastle, N.S.W.

29.1.54

Group Captain R.H. Davis, O.B.E.

Dear Captain Davis,

Further to my previous communication I have now received the following further reports. In view of the fact that the object was seen at approximately the same time at a point near Sydney Harbour Bridge and Scone, it begins to look like an astronomical phenomenon of a most unusual character. I understand from a press note that your headquarters in Melbourne are desirous of having reports on these objects.

1. Mr. G. Bailey, 111 Frederick Street, Mereweather West, size of small moon, blue with halo - 7.45.

2. Mr. Schofield and two sons fishing at Tomago, residence 16 Rose Street Mayfield West, blue to pale green - about 7.45 p.m.

3. Mr. Gray and daughter, 41 Brooke Street, New Lambton; west moving south jet speed. Light blue small tail small moon size - 7.45.

4. Mr. R.J. Peters, 12 James Street, Cessnock - 7.45. West moving south slower than jet, oblong, blue, red tail, 1/4 size moon.

5. Mr. A. Johnston, Grand View Road, New Lambton; just north of Sydney Harbour Bridge - 7.45 - blue green red head, west.

6. Mr. V. Gill at Scone, home address 44 Brett St., Georgetown - 7.45; light blue 1/4 moon size, west moving south - several people with him.

If this is a natural phenomena its cause may be allied to that of aurora, a mass of exited electrons as in a mercury vapour lamp, but in this case apparently moving rapidly.

Yours faithfully,
(sgd.) Mark Howarth

P.S. I enclose a communication from a Mrs. Banfield. There are also several other reports but not so factual.

Copy

5E

MARK HOWARTH, F.R.A.S.

Grange Mount Observatory
Bull Street
Mayfield
Newcastle, N.S.W.

29.1.54

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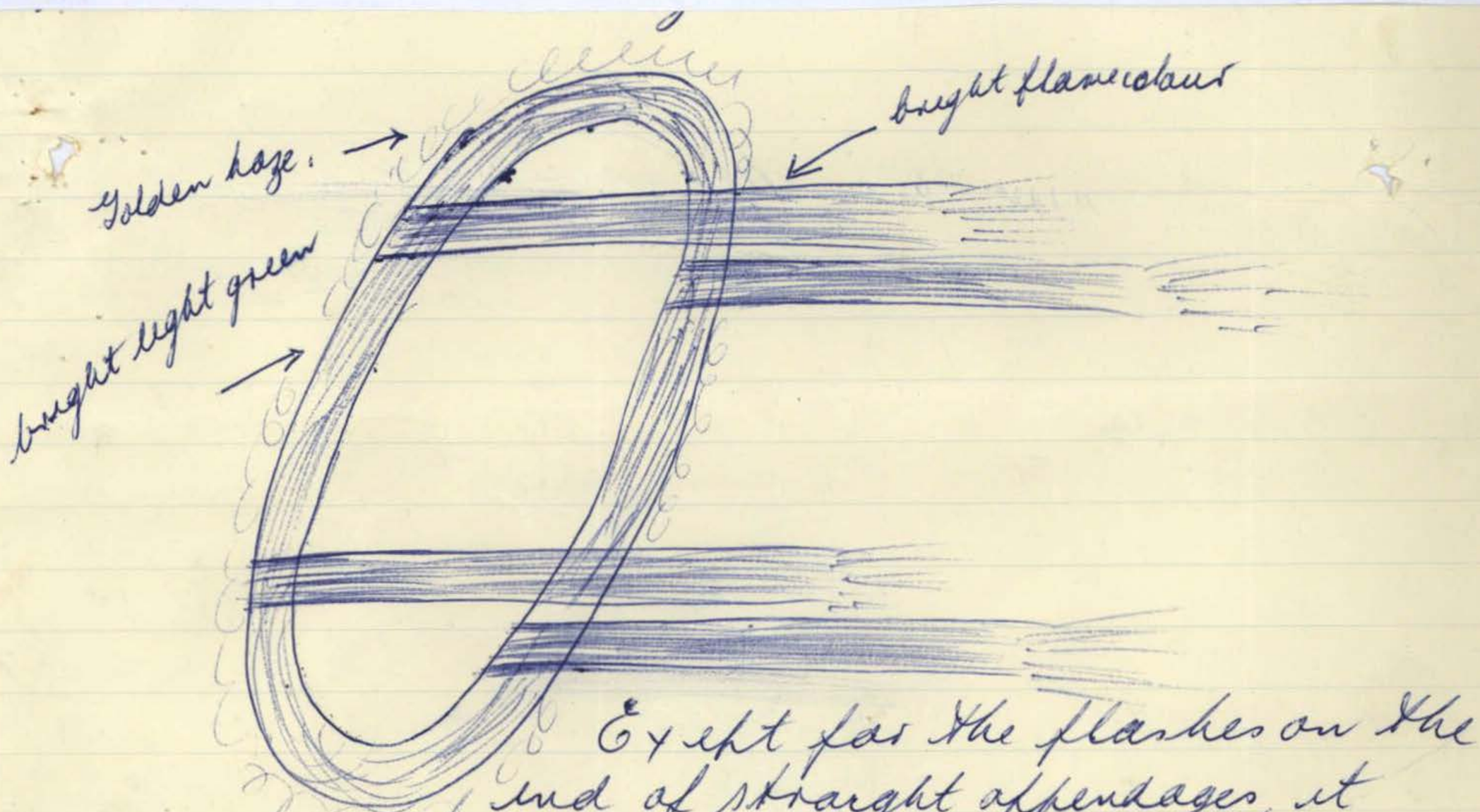
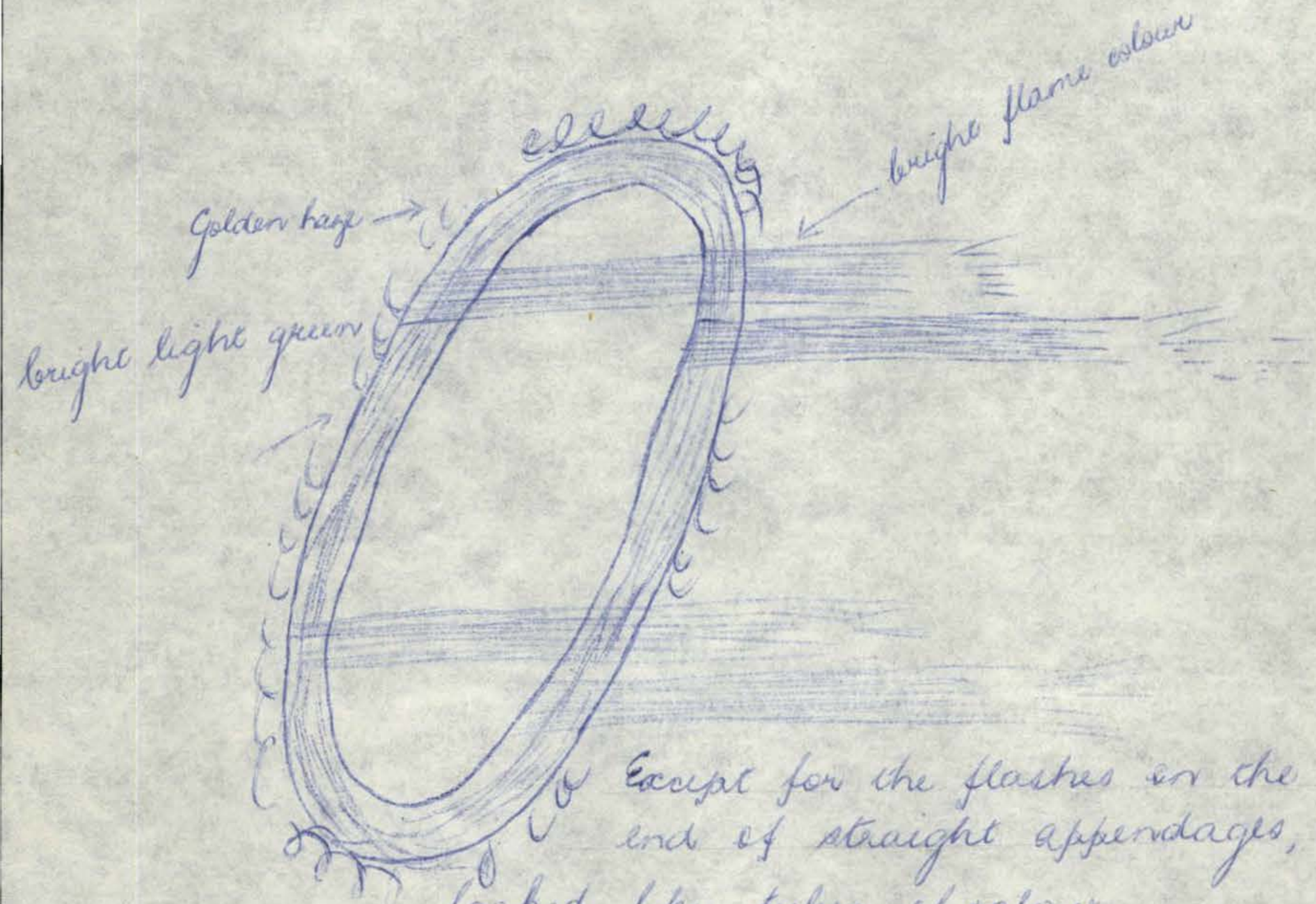


Except for the flashes on the end of straight appendages, it looked like tubes of colour.

H.D.

Copy



Except for the flashes on the end of straight appendages, it looked like tubes of colour

65

Copy

7 Hooper Street,
New Lambton.

Jan. 28th. 1954.

Dear Mr. Howarth,

Following our telephone conversation of last Friday, here is my firm impression of the strange object I saw in the sky of the night of January 21st.

I was sitting outside about 8 oc., I saw this object in the western sky shooting down to the south. To me it looked about 2 ft. in diameter and about 4" thick. It was perfectly round, in a bright clear green flame with a golden haze. Coming from this circle were four bright flame flashes about 2 ft. long with trailing jet ends, in a crimson shade.

What struck me particularly was the clear cut outline of this object and the beautiful colours, just like the clear colours to be seen in a fire. The report in todays paper differs a little to my impression, especially as to the shape of the object which to me was a clear unbroken circle. I think the clarity of its outline was what impressed itself upon me.

I will draw it for you as best I can and it may give you a better idea of the object.

Yours faithfully,

(sgd.)(Mrs.) Julia Banfield.

5G.

Copy

M.U. 1272

17 Fay Ave.,
NEW LAMBTON. 2N.

22nd January, 1954

Dear Mr. Howarth,

Here is the information which I phoned you this morning.

I observed the phenomena at approximately 7.45 p.m. It was travelling in a westerly direction and disappeared from sight behind the hills. When I first noticed it, it was about 35° - 40° above the horizon and travelled at an even speed, comparable to that of a jet plane. Its shape was not a perfect ellipse and its colour was soft luminous blue.

Yours sincerely,

(sgd.) (Miss) Grace Dalling

MARK HOWARTH, F.R.A.S.

GRANGE MOUNT OBSERVATORY
BULL STREET
MAYFIELD
NEWCASTLE, N.S.W.

TEL.: MW 2058

A-D.

28th January, 1954.

Group Captain R. H. Davies, O.B.E.,
Officer Commander,
WILLIAMTOWN.

Dear Captain Davies,

Further to my communication of the 26th instant, I have now received reports from the following:

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Mr. Kilburn and a friend, connected with Wangi Power Station, when at Fassifern saw the object, again about 7.45 p.m., in thewest, travelling south. Hereports it, as being a whitish colour with a blue tail.

Mr. Hal Hooker of Lambton, and his wife report seeing the object about 7.45 p.m., through their car window in the west at Lisarow, when coming up from Sydney.

These all appear to be excellent observers particularly Mr. Kilburn and Mr. Hooker who, incidentally played cricket for N.S.W. Both Mr. Hooker and Mr. Kilburn estimate it being at an angle of 45°, Mr. Hooker was under the impression it was dropping.

Yours faithfully,

Mark Howarth

MARK HOWARTH, F.R.A.S.

GRANGE MOUNT OBSERVATORY
BULL STREET
MAYFIELD
NEWCASTLE, N.S.W.

TEL.: MW 2058

4B.

29/1/54

Group Captain R H Davis O.B.E

Dear Captain Davis

Further to my previous communication I have now received the following further report. In view of the fact that the object was seen at approximately the same time at a point near Sydney Harbour Bridge & seems it begins to look like an astronomical phenomenon of a most unusual character. I understand from a press note that your headquarters in Melbourne are desirous of having reports on this object.

1. Mr J Bailey 111 Federal St Newcastle West. sky of small moon blue with halo. 7.45

2. Mr Schofield & 2 sons fishing at Tomago. residence 16 Rae St Cleveland West, blue & pale green. about 7.45 p.m.

3. Mr W Gray & daughter 41 Brooks St New Lambton, West moving South jet spued. Light blue small tail small moon sky. 7.45.

4. Mr R J Peters 12 James St Cessnock 7.45. West moving South stones chain jet. oblong, blue, red tail. ¼ sky moon.

5. Mr A Johnston Grand View Rd, New Lambton, just north of Sydney Harbour Bridge 7.45. blue green red head West.

6. Mr A Gill at Scone, Lome address 44 Butt St Georgetown. 7.45. Light blue ¼ moon sky. West moving South several people with him.

If this is a natural phenomena it cause may be allied to that of aurora, a mass of excited electrons as in a mercury vapour lamp, but in this case apparently moving rapidly.

Yours faithfully

Mark Howarth

P.S. Send a communication from a Mr Bangfield. There are also several other reports but not so factual.

4.C.

7 Hooker Street,
New Lambton.
Jan. 28th 1954

Dear Mr. Hamarth,

Following our telephone conversation of last Friday, here is my firm impression of the strange object I saw in the sky of the night of January 21st.

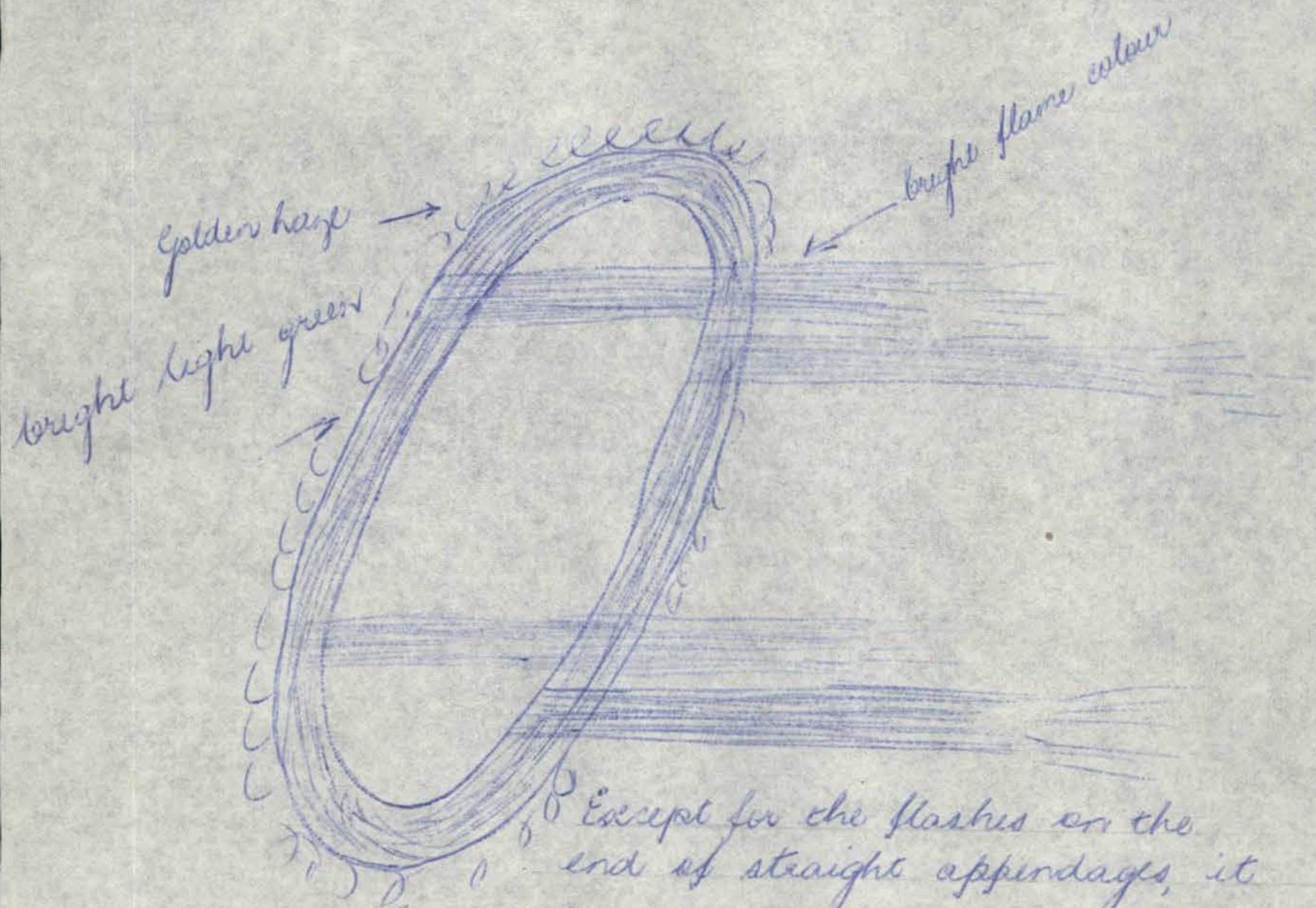
I was sitting outside about 8°°, & saw this object in the western sky shooting down to the south. To me it looked about 2 ft in diameter & about ¼" thick. It was perfectly round, in a bright clear green flame with a golden haze. Coming from this circle were four bright flame flashes about 2 ft long with trailing jet ends, in a crimson shade.

What struck me particularly was the clear cut outline of this object & the beautiful colours, just like the clear colours to be seen in a fire! The report in to-days paper differs a little to my impression, especially as to the shape of the object which to me was a clear unbroken circle. I think the clarity of its outline was what impressed itself upon me.

I will draw it for you as best I can and it may give you a better idea of the object.

Yours faithfully
(Mrs) Julia Blifeld

Copy



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2A

MARK HOWARTH, F.R.A.S.

GRANGE MOUNT OBSERVATORY
BULL STREET
MAYFIELD
NEWCASTLE, N.S.W.

TEL.: MW 2058

26th January, 1954.

Group Captain R.H. Davies, OBE.,
Officer Commander,
WILLIAMTOWN.

Dear Group Captain Davies,

I have received a communication from Miss Dalling of New Lambton, dealing with the phenomena she saw in the sky on the 21st instant. This was confirmed by another lady who telephoned me that she had also seen the phenomena, which she described in a similar manner, and at the same time.

I know you are collating information of this description, I am therefore, sending you a copy of the letter on to you.

You might care to communicate with the lady concerned.

Yours faithfully,

Mark Howarth

Stockton 174, 175

3A

5/7/AIR

School of Land/Air Warfare
Williamtown
New South Wales

28th January 1954

Mark Howarth, F.R.A.S.
Grange Mount Observatory
Bull Street
Mayfield
Newcastle N.S.W.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter of the 26th January, 1954, and the enclosed communication from Miss Dalling of New Lambton concerning the phenomena which she says she saw in the sky on the 21st January.

2. I understand that some source is collating information on this matter, but I am not aware of the exact source. However, I shall forward a copy of your letter and that from Miss Dalling to our Headquarters, who will, no doubt, be able to direct it to the correct channels.

Yours faithfully,

(R.H. DAVIS)
Group Captain
Commandant

2B

COPY ONLY.

M.U. 1272.

17 Fay Ave.,
NEW LAMBTON. 2N.

22nd January, 1954.

Dear Mr. Howarth,

Here is the information which I phoned you this morning.

I observed the phenomena at approximately 7.45 p.m. It was travelling in a westerly direction and disappeared from sight behind the hills. When I first noticed it, it was about 35° - 40° above the horizon and travelled at an even speed, comparable to that of a jet plane. Its shape was not a perfect ellipse and its colour was soft luminous blue.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) (Miss) Grace Dalling.

CONFIDENTIAL

1.A.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

In reply please quote
No. 5/3/8/Air(2A)

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

Headquarters Home Command
Penrith. 1.W.
New South Wales.

21st. November, 1953.

Headquarters, R.A.A.F. Richmond.
School of Land/Air Warfare, Williamtown.
Headquarters, R.A.A.F. Canberra.
Headquarters, R.A.A.F. Amberley.
Headquarters, R.A.A.F. Laverton.
Headquarters, R.A.A.F. Mallala.
No. 23 Squadron, Archerfield.
A.J.A.S.S. R.A.A.F. Element, Nowra.

Copy to: No. 22 Squadron, Richmond
No. 86 (T) Wing, Richmond
No. 2 (F) O.T.U. Williamtown.
No. 30 Squadron, Canberra
No. 82 Wing, Amberley.
No. 21 Squadron, Laverton.
A.R.D.U. Laverton.
No. 34 Squadron, Mallala
No. 24 Squadron, Mallala

ATTENTION INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS

Repro on

UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS

1. A pro-forma used for the purpose of standardising reports of unusual sightings was forwarded to units in January 1951 and has now been superseded.

2. This pro-forma has now been revised with a view to obtaining additional information. Future reporting should be in accordance with this new pro-forma a copy of which is attached.

3. Though it is a fact that an observer cannot judge the distance from him of an unfamiliar object in the air, observers in general seldom hesitate to give an estimated height and speed when reporting unusual sightings. Items 16 and 17 on the pro-forma have been specially annotated with a view to overcoming these two weaknesses.

4. In almost every case the only attributes of position and movement that can be measured are:-

(a) Bearing.

(b) Angle of elevation.

(c) Angle through which object moves.

(d) Angle between path of movement and horizon.

(e) Time taken for movement in (c).

and though observers will seldom think of actually measuring these at the time of sighting an object, fairly accurate estimates can often be deduced by skilful questioning and a reconstruction of the incident.

5. The bearing of the object can be checked by reference to

Para

CONFIDENTIAL

../2.

a good map, to prominent local features, or to celestial bodies.

6. Angle of elevation can often be checked by asking the observer to point out a cloud or other reference at the same time estimating the elevation of the object under investigation. The investigator should then measure the elevation of this. It is unlikely that an accurate means of measuring angles will be available but it should be remembered that if a foot rule be held loosely at arms length and at right angles to the line of vision each inch will subtend an angle of about two degrees at the eye. Further simple means of measuring angles should also be memorised.

7. Angular movement can be discussed and deduced in a fashion similar to that used to determine elevation.

8. Direction of movement can also be translated to angles to the horizon or some other datum.

9. Time taken for an event to happen is very hard to estimate but it is important, and every effort should be made to estimate lapsed time as accurately as possible. In doing this it may be of help to time the observer while he re-enacts what he did and said during some aspect of the incident.

10. These new instructions do not emanate from any renewed interest in "Flying Saucers" or any new intelligence on the subject, but are merely intended to improve the standard of reporting.

for J.B. Fitzgerald Sqn. Ldr.
(J.E.S. BENNETT)
Wing Commander
for Officer Temporarily Commanding

REPORT ON AERIAL OBJECT OBSERVED

1. Name of Observer.....

2. Address of Observer.....

3. Occupation of Observer.....

4. Date and Time of observation (Time given in 24 hour clock zonal time)

.....

5. Period of observation(s).....

6. Manner of observation: (Give details of own position by map reference if possible, or by known landmarks, and describe any equipment used in the observation).

.....

.....

.....

7. Where was object first observed, e.g. overhead, coming from behind a hill, over the horizon, etc.

.....

8. What first attracted observer's attention, e.g. light or noise.

.....

9. Did object appear as a light or as a definite object.

.....

10. If there was more than one object, how many were there, and what was their formation.

.....

11. What was the colour of the light or object.....

12. What was its apparent shape.....

.....

13. Was any detail of structure observable.....

.....

14. Was any method of propulsion obvious.....

15. Was there any sound.....

16. ** Height, or angle of elevation.....

17. ** Speed, or angular velocity.....

18. State any experience which enables observer to be reasonably certain about the answers given to 16 and 17.

.....

** Since it is normally impossible to estimate the height and speed of a strange object it will usually be better to endeavour to determine the angle of elevation of the object, the angle through which it moved, and the time taken to do this.

Report on aerial object observed (contd.).

19. Direction of flight with reference to landmarks or points of the compass.

.....

20. Did the object remain on a straight path, deviate or manoeuvre at all.

.....

.....

21. Was any trail of exhaust, vapour or light seen.....

22. Where did object disappear, e.g. in mid-air, behind a hill, over the horizon.

.....

23. Existence of any physical evidence such as fragments, photographs, or other supporting evidence.

.....

24. Weather conditions experienced at time(s) or observation(s).....

.....

25. Location of any air traffic in the vicinity at the time of sighting.

.....

.....

.....

26. Location of any meteorological stations in the general area.....

.....

27. Any additional information.....

.....

.....

.....

Questions 25, 26 and 27 to be answered by interrogator.