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Incident 418 -- Oxnard, Ohio -- 8 July 1968

There is no serious astronomical explanation for this incident.

The present investigation was begun first by the fact that the description of the incident stated, "... with about a quarter moon rising in the east-northeast." The quarter moon can never be seen in that position in July here (local time). For the quarter moon sets at approximately midnight. The moon at that date was not yet at the first quarter, which was at about 2300. The correct statement would be, "... with about a quarter moon setting in the west-northeast." This, oddly enough, is the quadrant of the sky in which the object was reported to be seen. In what direction, then, was the observer really looking?

Although the sky was reported as clear, would it possibly be that rapidly moving clouds periodically obscured the sitting moon -- a moon which, incidentally, does have a pale yellowish-white light?

Other possibilities that suggest themselves are distant aerial stations or aircraft or searchlights pointing on the sky.

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