

Air Attache, Australia

IR-203-53

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10. Mr. William Robert FURNS, Aircraft Accident Inspector employed by Qantas Empire Airways, MASCOT, said "At about 0610 hours on 3rd May I was driving to FANKSTOWN aerodrome and my attention was drawn to an aircraft in the south-west, by my companion Mr. Charles FISHER, Qantas Operations Officer. He said "The Constellation is a bit early this morning." I glanced up and saw what appeared to be the sun shining on the polished surface of an aircraft fuselage. I said it is a bit off the Connie's course; it is probably a D.C.4. The object appeared to be flying on a straight course in the direction of MASCOT. It seemed to be about 3000-4000 feet above the ground travelling at a normal aircraft speed. I did not follow its flight and merely dismissed it as an aircraft approaching MASCOT. Subsequently I was informed that no aircraft arrived at MASCOT at or about that time."

11. Mr. Charles FISHER, Qantas Airways Operations Officer, said "At about 0610 hours on 3rd May I observed what I thought was a Constellation aircraft to the south-west. I saw what appeared to be the sun shining on the polished surface of an aircraft and thought I saw a fin-shaped similar to the fin of a Constellation. I said to Mr. FURNS "There is a Constellation coming in, but is a bit early today". FURNS said "It is a bit off track, it is too far south for the Constellation, it may be a D.C.4". I was subsequently told that the Constellation I expected to see did not arrive at MASCOT until about 0710 hours".

12. Mr. James EDWARDS, Clerk, of No. 3 Towradgi Road, TOWRADGI (Between HULLI and WOLLONONG) said "At about ten past six on the morning of 3rd May I was walking from my home in TOWRADGI Road towards PRINCE'S HIGHWAY. I saw a cluster of lights at an elevation of about 30° to 40° in the south-west, travelling east. The colour of the light was yellow, similar to street lights. The cluster appeared to emit a discharge and break up slightly leaving a trail of light. The speed of movement seemed to be about half the speed of a falling star. The lights appeared to cross the coastline due south of my position and disappeared behind a cloud out to sea. I could not see any shape or size".

13. Mr. Kelvin ELLIS, No. 39 Hawkebury Road, WESTMEAD, said "I was riding a motor cycle southbound along the HUME HIGHWAY just on the SYDNEY side of BARGO, when I observed a blue-white light between the trees. It appeared to be oval shaped. It appeared to be oval shaped, tapering to a point at the rear and seemed to be travelling north-east. I stopped the motor cycle and with my companion Miss Roma CRITTENDON, watched the light disappear behind some trees. I estimated the time to be a little after six A.M. by the distance I had travelled and the fact that I had turned off my headlamp and was driving with the park light on. The light appeared to travel in a straight line and left a trail of sparks approximately the same length as the main body but the light of the trail was less brilliant".

14. Miss Roma CRITTENDON, No. 55 Weston Street, HARRIS PARK, said "I was travelling on a motor cycle with Kelvin ELLIS of WESTMEAD on the morning of 3rd May. Just before full daylight I saw a blue-white light, oval in shape, between the trees with a trail of light with a lesser brilliance behind it. I watched it for a short time until I lost sight of it behind some trees. It appeared to be travelling in a straight line towards the north-east".

15. Captain C.J. IRELAND "A" Branch, Victoria Barracks, SYDNEY, was interviewed on this matter. He said "I was travelling by car on the PRINCE'S HIGHWAY near HEATHCOTE at approximately 0600-0610 hours on 3rd May when I saw an object cross from the south-west to the east at an elevation of about 30°. The object was brilliantly lighted. The front portion was an intense white with a blue tint and a string of following

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