



# TUFOIC

TASMANIAN U.F.O. INVESTIGATION CENTRE

JUNE 1984 NEWSLETTER



## YEAR TO DATE

Only a trickle of calls are coming into the Centre to investigate during 1984, however, amongst these have been a few very strange events. Two reports involving figures from a few years back, an old sighting on the Lyell Highway, and two NL cases from Lonnvale from last August that came to hand too late for our Annual Report. Also from the end of 1983 is a West Coast report in which the witness found he could not control his car, this case is under investigation. This year has seen two unidentified cases, one from Montumana (North West), the other from the Lower Midlands.

On the negative side has been the fact that our Annual Report on sale to the public at newsagents for over 10 years is no longer on the shelves. The ever increasing costs of publication with the fall in sales in keeping with the drop in sightings has made general sales prohibitive. The Report is still circulated to the media but with activity at low level there was little coverage of our Report. One of the reviews in a Northern paper was of low quality and would have been more likely to set back the public's view of the Centre and the phenomena.

On the Australian scene reports also remain very low, although elsewhere in parts of the United States there have been an increase in sightings, the first in some areas since the mid 1970s.

Whilst little has happened UFOwise in Australia there has been plenty of action in other areas. ACUFOS of which the Centre is a member has seen a spate of resignations and with UFOCON 8 being held this month things are in the melting pot. UFOA has been formed for active participation in UFO Research with former ACUFOS Administrator Vlad Gođic at the helm, UFOIAN will be its publishing medium.



EDITION NO.42

THE EXAMINER, Thursday, May 3, 1984

## RAAF now only bothers with threatening UFOs

**CANBERRA** — The RAAF will in future only bother with UFOs if they appear to be dangerous to national security.

The investigation of every sighting — the RAAF prefers to call them Unusual Aerial Sightings (UAS) — has proved too expensive for Australia's aerial defence force.

The Defence Minister, Mr Scholes, announced yesterday that the RAAF would in future investigate fully on those UAS which suggested "a defence or national security implication."

Mr Scholes said that while the RAAF would continue to be the first point of contact, UAS reports considered not to have defence or security implications would not be further investigated.

Instead, they would be recorded and the observer of the UAS would be given the address of civilian research organisations if the observer wished to pursue the matter further.

Mr Scholes said that in the past, the RAAF's investigations of all reports of UAS had often proved time consuming, unproductive and had led to many man-hours of follow-up action by the



• Mr Scholes

RAAF and other agencies such as the Aviation Department and the Bureau of Meteorology.

He said that procedures for investigating UAS reports had remained unchanged for many years.

Sightings of UFO's peaked in Australia during the late 1950s and early 1960s.

However, in the past decade, there have been between 110 and 150 sightings reported to the RAAF each year.

A Defence Department spokesman said last night that of these all except about three per cent had been explained.

The spokesman said the cost of investigating all the sightings was likely to have been in the millions of dollars.

1984 REPORTS.

Only two unidentified cases have surfaced so far this year, one from the far North West and the other from the Midlands.

Three witness had stopped their car due to a mechanical problem at Montumana. The time was about 10.30pm on a fine clear February night (Feb 25th). A bright white light was seen falling earthwards but unlike a falling star after 3/5 seconds it changed course and headed in a southerly direction. It continued on this direction ofor another 6 seconds before halting and seeming to disappear back into space.

Our second case occured on April 18th on a farm in the Midlands (location anonymous by request) around 7.30pm. Mrs Z was just passing her back door when she noticed a glow low in the sky to the east. Going outside she discovered the source of this glow was a round gold shaped object no more than 1 kilometre away over the paddocks. It seemed to be moving towards and away from the witness. In a minute or so she noticed a second object this time yellow, disc like with a bump on top. It was about the same elevation and below the line of distant hills, almost at once she observed a yellow bowl type object coming from the right (Sth) to take up a position below the 2nd object.

Mrs Z at first fascinated felt uneasy now and returned inside to watch from a window. She saw the yellow bowl move up below the disc and seemnglt join on to it, the disc and bowl now forming the one object. Now there two objects in the sky both about the same size. After about a minute both objects moved off to her left in level flight, they were soon obscured by a nearby hill and the sky was once again quite dark.

The objects were estimated at about 15-20m in width. The first round object seemed to have some lines on it. No sound was heard at any stage. No toher witnesses are known to the Centre although motorists on the nearby Midland Highway could have a glimpse of the 1st object between the hills.

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Derwent Bridge 1964

(Investigation by P.Zehmeister)

Mrs R and a passenger were travelling from Hobart to Queenstown one evening, the weather being fine. Some distance from Derwent Bridge Mrs R's passenger noticed three luminant objects to the left of the car. (Sth to SW direction) The objects were at an elevation of 30 degrees and in a perfect formation distance wise. The object in front was much larger than the two in the rear as they all headed northwards. The tear shaped objects were a silvery grey colour, but there was no sound or tail noticed.

Mrs R drove onto Derwent Bridge (distance not known) keeping the three objects in view. Mrs R stopped at Derwent Bridge to ring her husband at home in Queenstown. She was going to call from the hotel but it was closed so she had to use the telephone box opposite the hotel. Her husband was not convinced with what she had to say and by now the objects which were not moving fast were overhead and looking more cigar like in shape.

Following the telephone call the two witnesses returned to their car and were suprised to find that the three objects had vanished. The passenger had been frightened during the 35 minute event whilst Mrs R had found the expeience relaxing and the objects beautifull. She was disappointed they had departed. The witnesses continued on to Queenstown without further incident.

Derwent Bridge objects.



Lonnavale

Six of 1983's 7 unidentified cases occurred in August of that year. Two cases from Lonnavale were too late to be covered in our Annual Report, they occurred on August 20th and 24th. Both cases were similar although one took place in daylight, the sightings occurred roughly over the same paddock.

In the first sighting Mrs P was looking out of her window about 10pm. In the south east she observed what she first took to be a shooting star. However, the yellow star like light which had a tail was coming down fast. Mrs P really had a closer look when the light passed in front of the nearby hill, at this stage she saw a few brief sparkles. Next the light landed in front of some trees on a slope about 200m distant. Mrs P was sure that something could be found next morning but a check revealed nothing.

A few days later Mrs C was at her front door as her husband arrived home about 4.30pm. She also noticed something in the southeastern sky about the area of Mrs P's light. A large teardrop white light was visible against the clear blue sky as it descended straight down towards paddocks just over the rise. The object looked to be 1mx2m in size. There was no noise as Mrs C watched for about 30seconds. Mrs C's husband was too late to see the object so they drove straight up the road to search for the object which must have landed so they thought in the paddocks. Although they only took a few minutes to get there nothing could be seen in the paddock to explain the event.

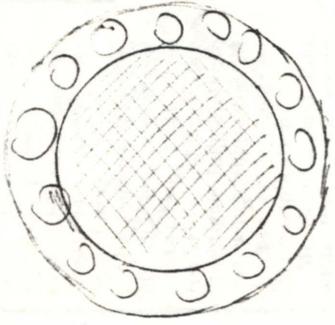
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Motorist Loses Control

A chance call from the West Coast has led the Centre's West Coast Representative Peter Zehmeister to a strange event which occurred about November last (1983). Full details of the sighting are still being checked.

Mr A had been to Tullah to collect groceries and about 9pm departed for Stringers Creek approx 40kmts of winding road away. About 10k out of Tullah Mr A noticed a ring of very bright blue lights, almost like welding lights. The cluster of lights moved in to a position above his Ford Fairline. The lights formed a circle like a life saver with the centre being black. Mr A decided to stop to have a look at the lights but found that the brakes would not work and he seemed to have no control over his car. In an attempt to stop the car he pulled out the ignition keys and threw them on the floor but the engine kept on running and the the car seemed to be doing about 70kph, although the speedo went to zero. The headlights went out when he pulled out the ignition key, Mr A could not remember steering the car although he recalls seeing 4 cars coming in the opposite direction, he does not know if they saw him.

The object paced Mr A's car for 25/30kmts but Mr A is sure that he took only 10 minutes to cover the distance to Stanley River. The object departed with increasing speed to the north. As soon as the object left his engine stopped and he was able to restart it himself. He has had no trouble with the car before or since the event. Mr A's wife says that she had been outside when her husband came home and she also saw the light move off rapidly to the north.



EDITION 802

## Figure and Light Phenomena.

Mrs B contacted the Centre initially following publicity for UFOCON7 held in Hobart in 1983. Due to unforeseen delays details of the event which occurred late in the summer of 1976 were not completed until this year.

Mrs B at the time of the incident lived on Tasmania's East Coast. She and her husband had just retired to bed, the light was only just out when Mrs B became aware that someone was standing in the hallway just outside their bedroom door. Mrs B took the figure to be that of her 5 year old son, she called her husband's attention to the figure but it failed to respond when she called her son's name.

The figure was not much over a metre from the bed and looked to be about a metre tall. It was just a black outline with arms at the side with legs together, no features were visible.

Mrs B's husband leant over to turn on their bedside light and missed the next part of the incident. Mrs B said that the figure somehow shrank instantly into an intense white light the size of a 50c coin. The light then streaked across the bedroom of their daughter and apparently out the window. This all occurred before Mrs B's husband could take a look. The distance travelled by the light was about 9m.

They checked their son at once but both he and their daughterdaughter were fast asleep. They turned off the light again but could see nothing to account for the event, no sounds or other lights were noticed.

Interestingly the period 1976/77 saw 4 other reports of figures associated with and without the presence of a UFO

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## 1982 Figure.

Recently the Centre received details of a mystery figure seen by a surprised witness near his Southern Tasmanian home. The incident occurred late in May 1982 about 9pm. It was dark at the time, there being no street lights in the area.

Mr C was just coming into his garden when he had the feeling he was being watched, to his left he then noticed a misty white egg shape just above the ground. Inside the egg Mr C was amazed to see the dark outline of a figure surrounded by a white moving type misty colour. The egg was about 15m away and about 1m off the ground. Mr C estimates it was 2.5m tall and 1.5m wide.

The figure inside looked to be about 1.75m tall and seemed to be that of a normally proportioned human. It was only visible as a black outline, arms slightly away from the side of the body, legs slightly apart.

Mr C felt that the figure was facing him as he looked in surprise for some 20seconds. There was no movement or noise during the sighting. Mr C says he bolted for his front door, when he looked back there was nothing to be seen.

His wife says he was shaken up when he came inside and the dogs had been barking. She thought that just before he came in it sounded like their garage door was being opened but a check revealed nothing out of place.

