

# Was Flying Saucer in Proximity to Cairns?

**C**CAIRNS.—Was a flying saucer near the north on Tuesday night? This question has arisen as a result of a sight seen eastwards offshore on Tuesday night by people residing along the Esplanade in Cairns.

The period of their observation extended from 10 p.m. to midnight, when the mysterious apparition suddenly disappeared.

Those who saw the phenomeon report that it was similar to a huge star, surrounded by a great mist, with the star brighter by far than any others to be seen in the sky at the same time.

This brillance changed in intensity from time to time.

Extending from the central light was a fan-like object on the left hand side, whilst there were two long shafts on the left.

Periodically, one of these would alter its length and degree of its illumination.

Throughout the period of its sighting from 10 p.m. to midnight, the apparition moved slowly and steadily northwards.

It was seen by people whose standing and sobriety are beyond question.

question.

All descriptions of its appearance were more or less similar except for minor details.

### **ANOTHER ONE**

Recent world-wide reports of the presence of flying-saucers established amongst those who saw the sight the general belief that it was another such visitation.

These accounts of the mystery light are given by two eye-witnesses:

They come from Mrs. M. Southwell, a Sydney resident who has been visiting Cairns for some weeks as a result of ill health, and Miss Marcelli Southwell, her daughter, who has been accompanying her mother.

Both have been guests at the Strand Hotel, from the verandah of which they sighted and observed the mystery light.

Another guest whose name is not known, was with Miss Southwell for part of the time when the light was being watched. whilst the interest of others was also aroused.

### **NIGHT PORTER SAW IT**

Mr. Bob Peach, night porter at the Strand Hotel, who was on duty at the time, is also reported to have observed and

**ported to have observed and studied the height.**

"It was about 10 p.m. when I happened to look up at the sky" said attractive, blonde Miss Southwell, "and there I saw what appeared to be a huge star lying directly eastwards of the hotel verandah, on which I was standing.

"It was immensely bright—too bright, in fact, to be a star.

"Round, fish-like fins were shooting from one side, and from the other, two shafts were projecting, one of which would go out and then come in, for all the world as though it were signalling.

"I drew the attention of another guest at the hotel and asked if he would make the same observations as I did.

### **CONFIRMATION**

"I described what I could see to him and he confirmed that he could see a similar sight.

"Then whilst we were standing watching the light, a huge white mist appeared.

"This seemed to come at intervals and obscure the brilliance of the star, which you would not see for about three minutes.

### **SEEN FOR OVER TWO HOURS**

"Then the light would emerge again and disappear once more

again and disappear once more.

"Next, the light would remain for five or ten minutes before the mist came again.

"The light appeared to disappear at intervals of three or five minutes.

"This went on from 10 p.m. until after midnight, when the light passed from sight, and I went to bed.

"Meanwhile the light was moving slowly.

"It seemed that it was going northwards.

"A feature of the occurrence that aroused my interest was that the light was so bright that you could not look at it continuously.

"It was so bright and had such a strong influence on the eyes that you had to turn away.

"This caused me to conclude that it was not a star.

#### **"NOT A PLANET OR COMET"**

"Neither I concluded, could it be a planet, because a planet has tails.

"Nor, I decided, could it be a comet, because a comet shoots.

"The outstanding fact was that it was so bright that you could not view it for long with the naked eye.

"This brilliance was perhaps the reason why, when the mist came

reason why, when the mist came down over the light and extinguished it from view, the mist was itself illuminated brilliantly.

"But when the mist passed, the light would come back with full force.

### **"ONE OF STRANGEST SIGHTS"**

"It was one of the strangest sights I have ever seen," added Miss Southwell.

"When I first saw the light, I thought I was seeing things, and remarked to myself: 'That is odd'.

"It was then that I asked the male guest who happened to be on the verandah at that time if he could see what I could, to receive his confirmation later," said Miss Southwell.

Stressing the fact that she was "a country girl," having been born and lived most of her life in New South Wales rural areas, Miss Southwell was emphatic in claiming that she could have made no error in what she had seen.

"I spent years with my father in country observation," she declared, "and from that experience I know that I could not have made any misjudgement in seeing what I saw on Tuesday night.

"I would not be surprised to learn that I had seen a flying saucer," concluded Miss Southwell.

well.

## **MOVED SLOWLY NORTHWARDS**

Mrs. Southwell, who was called from her bedroom by her daughter, confirmed Miss Southwell's description.

Throughout the period she had watched the light, Mrs. Southwell reported, it had moved slowly northwards.

First, she said there would be a brilliant light, with the fish-like tail on one side and the two shafts on the other.

One of these shafts was continually coming out and going in, throwing out varying lights, somewhat like radar effect.

Then the mist would form, the light would be obscured, but the mist would then be strongly illuminated.

Next the mist would reach a formation something like a dish saucer, with the light previously almost completely obscured, concluded Mrs. Southwell.

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