

A new light on spaceships

Australian Associated Press

LOS ANGELES, Monday.—"Spaceship" experts of America had a convention yesterday, and now, goggle-eyed, they think that a flying saucer dropped in on their meeting.

The experts attended the world's first Interplanetary Spacecraft Convention at Giant Rock, California, airport.

The convention was sponsored by George van Tassel, who said he acted "at the suggestion of friends from another planet".

After dark last night, a large orange fireball blazed briefly over the convention grounds, then flickered out.

Some delegates believe that the fiery object was a "sign" that "they" were in the area, and were ready to land a whirling 300ft craft, as van Tassel had promised.

Sceptics thought it was a flare from a

nearby US marine base—or a gag.

Van Tassel said the fireball was probably a "nullifier" used by "other worlders" to rid the atmosphere of radio-activity from recent hydrogen - bomb blasts.

Later, another "spaceship" expert, Truman Bethurum, of California, said he had

come face-to-face with a female spaceship pilot at Mormon Mesa, Nevada, in 1952.

"The captain was a pretty girl who looked 26, but was really a grandmother," Bethurum said.

"She was from the other side of the moon and bossed a crew of 32 men."



