

UFO sightings

Considerable interest and conjecture was occasioned in the district as a result of the recent sighting of a strange sky object which passed over the Ossie Smith property south/east of Beverley on July 24th. It appears that on the night of the visitation there were reports of U.F.O. sightings in various parts of the State and the latest to hand at this office comes from well-known insurance representative, Mr. Alex Steel, who was returning to his city home at the time. On arrival at his home he wrote a report for submission to the U.F.O. officer at Pearce. The report was as follows —

Circumstances in which observation made:

Date: Thursday, July 24, 1969.

Time: 1904 hours; **Position:** 2 miles east of Sawyers Valley travelling westwards along Gt. Eastern H/way at 55-60 mph.; **Conditions:** Clear sky, light traffic (say 1 car every ½-mile tra-

fic (say 1 car every $\frac{1}{2}$ -mile travelling eastwards). Lateral visibility restricted because of surrounding timber and headlight beam.

Observations: A bright object appeared over the tree-line at about 30 degrees north of the direction in which I was travelling. On glancing at it for the second time it appeared to be a brightly lit elongated cigar-shaped object, possibly 200 or 300 feet long and about 20 to 30 feet high, with a comet-like tail (of similar proportions and intensity) travelling from north to south. So intense was the brightness and so large the apparent fusilage it appeared like an aircraft caught side-on in the beam of a searchlight at about 1,000 feet. However, it appeared to be low over the top of Greenmount (about 4 to 5 miles ahead) and I thought its speed would have been between 150 and 200m.p.h., its direction was southerly. These conflicting phenomena made it impossible to accurately estimate its speed and distance.

mate its speed and distance.

When it was straight ahead of me, I could see no flashing lights, and as it continued its southerly course at what appeared to be a dangerously low height over the ranges, I assumed that it was an aircraft in difficulties in landing. Its angle of declivity to the skyline appeared to be between 3 and 6 degrees and it was in sight for approx 15-20 seconds