

Sept 22, 1972

That light in sky shows up again

Melbourne's brilliant mystery light in the sky has again been sighted over Broadmeadows.

Four people reported seeing the light, now being studied by the RAAF's top-level team of Unidentified Flying Object experts.

The light has appeared in the same area, about the same time, two nights in a row.

It was first sighted — and photographed — by "Age" staff photographer Ray Jamieson near Broadmeadows North about 10.10 p.m. on Tuesday. It was visible for 15 to 20 minutes.

On Wednesday night at 10.30 four people saw a brilliant mystery object from Flynn Crescent, Broadmeadows. They watched it for about 15 minutes.

The object was sighted by Mr. and Mrs. Brian Spinks, Miss Sheila Jordan, and Mr. Albert Batchelor.

Mrs. Spinks said: "We had just watched a film on TV and Sheila Jordan was driving out the drive on her way home.

"Suddenly she yelled: 'Di come and have a look . . . come quick'.

"I didn't see it at first, but then I saw a great big light to the east. It was stationary."

Mrs. Spinks first talked about the mystery light to a work friend at Courage Brewery. She was unaware of "The Age" pictures.

Her friend, whose husband works for "The Age", told her about the newspaper pictures.

Mrs. Spinks said the light appeared to be about two miles away and about 1000 ft. above the ground.

Unlike Jamieson's sighting, when the object moved "faster than any aircraft", the light seen over Broadmeadows on Wednesday night was stationary.

"The Age" yesterday received many telephone calls from readers. They offered explanations for the phenomenon and reported sightings of other unidentified flying objects.

The RAAF talked to Jamieson. It wants full details of the sighting.

The Secretary General of the Astronautical Society of Australia (Mr. Keith Thomas) said the object could have been "a bit of space rubbish burning up in the atmosphere".

Mr. Thomas said the length of time the object would be visible would depend upon the angle of entry into the Earth's atmosphere, its speed, and the turbulence in the atmosphere.

He agreed the bright light being emitted from the object, as reported by Jamieson, would not "normally tally" with the space rubbish theory.